

Tree Removal and Preservation Work for the New Memorial Stadium Project

As part of the redevelopment of Memorial Stadium, 18 trees within the construction zone on the Seattle Center grounds – as well as the trees and shrubs located inside the Memorial Stadium footprint – were removed in July 2025. This work was a carefully planned and necessary component of the project which was reviewed and approved through the City's permitting and environmental review processes.

While a number of trees and shrubs were removed as part of the construction plans, the project team made a concerted effort to preserve several significant and mature trees located within the design footprint. This includes the preservation of a rare Gleditsia (also known as honey locust) tree on the Seattle Center campus at the southwest corner of the construction site.

In addition to the Gleditsia tree, several other notable species on the Seattle Center campus just outside the construction footprint are also being preserved including five large maple trees, seven medium-sized trees outside the south side of the stadium to help maintain the tree canopy along Harrison Street, and several legacy London plane trees which are thoughtfully integrated into the new stadium design.

Sustainable Tree Removal and Protection Measures

The project has also adopted the highest level of sustainability for the tree removal and the most stringent protection for the remaining trees, including:

- Installation of semi-permanent chain-link fencing around preserved trees for duration of construction;
- Manual soil preparation near tree roots to prevent damage;
- Ongoing oversight by onsite tree care professionals throughout the construction phase including regular health inspections;
- Providing for the removed trees to live on as timber salvage, mulch, and for enrichment purposes such as habitat and leafy greens for animals at Woodland Park Zoo;
- Replacing all 18 removed Seattle Center trees with new plantings on the Seattle Center campus;
- Planting more than 67 additional native trees at the Southwest Athletic Center (near Chief Sealth High School) in South Seattle – a neighborhood identified as having a tree canopy deficit.

Landscape and Legacy

Upon completion, the new Memorial Stadium and surrounding areas will feature abundant natural landscaping, including:

- Lush planting areas inside and around the stadium;
- A new landscaped plaza enhancing the historic Memorial Wall;
- Extensive greenery integrated throughout the Seattle Center campus.

[View the new Memorial Stadium renderings gallery with landscaping](#)

Timeline and Contact Information

Public notice was posted onsite on **July 1, 2025** and the tree removal began on **July 14, 2025**.

The tree removal work was conducted by Monarch Landscaping in full compliance with the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC 25.11) and all relevant city tree standards.

To view a copy of the related permit or tree application approval, visit <https://services.seattle.gov/portal/> and enter the SDCI record number (001689-25TN).

For Memorial Stadium construction-related questions/concerns and/or to request monthly project email updates, email the project team at MemorialStadium@Sellen.com