

# 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 are being removed; in addition, the trees and shrubs currently located inside Memorial Stadium and owned by Seattle Public Schools will also be removed. This work is a carefully planned and necessary component of the project which has been reviewed and approved through the City's permitting and environmental review processes.

While a number of trees and shrubs will be removed as part of the construction plans, the project team is making 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 will also be 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 is also adopting 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](#)

**For more information on tree removal and replacement plans, view the project fact sheet (coming soon)**

## Timeline and Contact Information

Public notice was posted onsite on **July 1, 2025** and the start-date for the tree removal is **July 14, 2025** and is expected to last for one week.

The tree removal work is being 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](mailto:MemorialStadium@Sellen.com)