

INTRODUCTION



This Guide is mainly pictorial so that it can be used as basic easy reference for anybody of any Nationality living in Brighton and Hove to identify the six major species of elm and also three distinct levels of Dutch Elm Disease (DED).

The illustrations of the six species most commonly found in the city area are supplied by David More, author and illustrator of so many fine tree books; photographs supplied by Alister Peters, member of the Tree (Arboricultural) Team for Brighton and Hove City Council with many years of Dutch elm disease knowledge. Myself, Peter Bourne, put the leaflet together along with all data relevant to it.

DUTCH ELM DISEASE



DUTCH ELM DISEASE

The following pages show photographs the of three major stages of Dutch Elm Disease infection.

1. **The First Stage** shows small infections on branches of an elm. Depending where the infection lies and how far it's carried through the tree in some cases such a tree can be saved.
2. **The Second Stage** shows more Dutch Elm Disease signs of yellowing and curled up dead (brown) foliage in summer. Such a tree is often ring barked on the trunk which means the removal of the bark and cambium (food channel) to prevent the disease spreading to the roots where it may transmit the infection to neighbouring elms.
3. **The Third Stage** shows that the tree is very much completely infected by disease and is thus dying or even dead. By this time the tree is ring barked and it's removed as quick as possible

In all cases timber is removed by the City Council Arboricultural (Tree) Team to a sanitation burning or storage site on the outskirts of the city area, away from vulnerable areas.

Any individual household known to have elm logs can have their logs replaced by logs of other tree species, and the elm logs will be removed by the Tree team to the local burning/storage site. The public is strongly advised to inform the city council if they have elm logs, otherwise infection could lead to a number of streets and parks losing their prized elm trees. The consequences could well be environmentally catastrophic in some areas of the city as elm is one of the few tree species tolerant to our chalk hills and sea winds.

FIRST STAGE OF DUTCH ELM DISEASE



Early signs of DED: Red areas showing the typical dieback of the disease entering on the tips of branches; usually caused by the feeding of Elm Bark Beetles.



When the dieback can be seen at a lower level on the trunk (Red Area) this is often a sign of DED being transmitted from the roots of an infected elm. Even if the neighbouring infected elm was removed years before.

SECOND STAGE OF DUTCH ELM DISEASE



This elm shows the typical progress of DED with wilting green and dried out brown foliage; by this stage the tree would have to be felled.



The elm on the centre left is severely infected. Dutch Elm Disease can go undetected below the surface so despite showing a third of the crown infected visually speaking, the disease may already have spread throughout the tree and down the trunk. In some circumstances it is at this stage many trees are ringed barked to prevent neighbouring elms from being infected.

THIRD STAGE OF DUTCH ELM DISEASE



This elm is completely taken over by the disease and is already close to death. Not long after this photo was taken the tree was removed.



Likewise this elm tree too is virtually dead and awaits removal.

ELMS ALREADY SPOTTED WITH DUTCH ELM DISEASE

You may find that some DED infected elms are already in the process of being dealt with by the Tree Team. These trees may have a ring of bark missing on the trunk or a City Council notice concerning Dutch Elm Disease visibly pinned to the trunk of the infected tree (see fig. 1). These trees are already known to the City Council Tree team; therefore please do not report these trees as they are already being dealt with and will be removed as soon as possible.



[Fig. 1] Dutch Elm Disease infected elms that stood on The Level in 2017.

1. Shows a typical City Council Dutch Elm Disease notice often pinned on infected elms waiting to be felled.
2. Shows a typical debarked ring around an infected elm which prevents transmission of the disease through the roots and acts as an indicator that the tree is known to the Tree Team as being infected by Dutch Elm Disease.

REPORTING AN ELM WITH SUSPECTED DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Please ensure you pass on these relevant details if you find any cases of Dutch Elm Disease (DED) in the city area which are **not** ring barked or have **not** got City Council DED notices on them:

AREA OF THE CITY: Please state the area of the city if you know it. For example if it is in Central Hove, Aldrington, Whitehawk, etc.

LOCATION:

1. **STREET TREES:** If the infected elm is in a street give the name of the street and to which building it stands outside giving either the number or the name of the building.
2. **PARK TREES:** If you spot an infected elm in a park firstly quote the name of the park (eg. Preston Park, Hove Recreation Ground, etc.) and what part of the park it stands in (eg. Picnic area, south side near race track, etc.)
3. **CEMETERY TREES:** If you spot an infected elm in a cemetery, get the name of the cemetery (Woodvale, Hove Cemetery, etc.) and quote the location it stands near bearing in mind not to step on graves to look for the nearest grave unless the tombstone is clear to read and can be read from a distance.
4. **WOODLAND TREES:** If you have access to GPS this will be much more help to spotting elms in woodlands; otherwise name the woodland (eg. Stanmer Park Great Wood, Three Cornered Copse, etc.) and where about its located with grid reference, GPS reading or in which direction, giving details where possible.
5. **PRIVATE TREES:** If anyone has reason to believe they have a Dutch Elm Disease infected elm on their property they can contact the City Council via the email provided.

CONTACTS TO REPORT AN INFECTED ELM

If you find any DED infections within the region of Brighton and Hove City please send the relevant details of the infected elm's location to these emails:

ElmDisease@brighton-hove.gov.uk

PLEASE BARE IN MIND OWING TO THE OVERWHELMING LEVEL OF WORK ENCOUNTERED SOME TIMES, RESIDENTS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE EMAIL BELOW:

elm.research.pjb@gmail.com

SIX MOST COMMON ELM TYPES IN BRIGHTON & HOVE



ELM SPECIES

The most common species of elm in the city of Brighton and Hove are as follows:

Wheatley elm	(<i>Ulmus minor</i> 'Sarniensis')
Huntingdon elm	(<i>Ulmus x hollandica</i> 'Vegeta')
Dutch elm	(<i>Ulmus x hollandica</i> 'Major')
English elm	(<i>Ulmus minor</i> 'Atinia')
Wych elm	(<i>Ulmus glabra</i>)
Field elm	(<i>Ulmus minor</i>)

These trees are found in streets and parks as well as open spaces in council housing estates, woodlands and quite a few private gardens.

There are numerous much rarer elms which are a bit more difficult to identify so, to prevent any issues with identification, these are not included in the guide. Further information can be obtained from Peter Bourne who assists the City Council with elm research.

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WHEATLEY ELM (*Ulmus minor* 'Sarniensis')



HUNTINGDON ELM (*Ulmus x hollandica* 'Vegeta')



DUTCH ELM (*Ulmus x hollandica* 'Major')



ENGLISH ELM (*Ulmus minor* 'Atinia')



WYCH ELM (*Ulmus glabra*)



FIELD ELM (*Ulmus minor*)

