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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

Harvard to replace dead Western Ave. trees in coming weeks

Posted October 14, 2010 04:48 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Harvard University says it will soon replace around 30 trees that died along Western Avenue in Allston last year.

Three years ago, about 100 pin oaks, red maples, and London planes were planted along the roadway as part of a neighborhood agreement for the construction of a state-of-the-art science complex. However, dozens of those had died by last year and Harvard then vowed to replace the trees by last spring.

But the college missed the optimal spring planting season because of earlier-than-expected warm weather, said university spokeswoman Lauren Marshall, and the school now plans to replace the the trees in the coming weeks during the fall planting season.

An exact count of how many trees will be replaced was not immediately available, but Marshall said she expects it will be fewer than 38 because five trees once thought dead have revived. In several cases, native grasses will be planted instead of trees because some spaces are not conducive to healthy tree growth, she added.

Meanwhile, Harvard staff is in the process of pruning and fertilizing the existing, living trees before winter.

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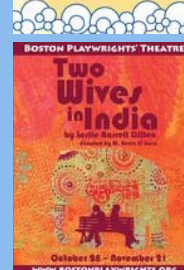


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