Tree # 1 is a purple plum that is slowly dying. A number of years ago, a late April snowstorm uprooted the tree, dropping it into the street. We pushed the tree back upright and secured it with a steel cable. Over the years, pieces have been falling off the tree, and we are continually removing dead branches. The tree is covered with what appears to be lichen, which is usually the sign of an unhealthy tree.

The upper photo shows the steel cable that is holding the tree up, as well as the presumed lichen and areas where parts of the tree have fallen off over the years. The lower photo shows the tree from the street. It is time for the tree to come down.





Tree #2 is just plain dead. It is the center tree, indicated by the arrow, in the photo below.



Tree number 3, shown by the red arrow, has a number of dead branches which should be pruned. It is not clear that this tree can stay up if tree #4 is to be taken down.



Tree number 4 appears to be a healthy tree; however, it is so tall that it towers over the house and is leaning in the direction of the house. When the wind is blowing, it clearly overhangs the house. Our concern is that if this tree comes down, it will land on the house and essentially destroy the back of the house.

Lest you think that we are being overly concerned, in May 2013 an apparently healthy tree dropped a huge branch which just grazed the house (it dented the gutter) and missed the HVAC system by only a couple of feet. This tree was about 1/3 the size of tree number 4. Upon inspection, the entire inside of the tree was rotted. We would like to avoid the possibility of this occurring with a larger tree.

It is difficult to get a good picture of tree #4. However, the pictures below show the tree looking almost straight up from the deck (top) and a picture from the street showing how the tree towers over the house (bottom).





The map below shows the location of the trees. Please note that, while tree #4 is on the boundary line, we have discussed this with our neighbors and they are OK with is coming down as long as we pay for it. This seems fair to us, as the direction that the tree is leaning threatens our house, not theirs.

