

Re: Ailanthus Altissima Tree - "Tree of Heaven"

Your ref: 2014/4574/T

From: Isolde Lawlor, 205 Belsize Rd. NW6 4AA

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I would like the above tree removed for the following reasons:

It is now approx. 20 metres tall and very wide, which takes away most of our daylight in the basement and makes the ground floor very dark also, we now need artificial lights on winter and summer

It is a self seeding aggressive, invasive plant from China which crowds out native species growing rapidly to 70 feet.

The roots of this tree have already caused two substantial cracks in the brickwork at the back and will no doubt cause subsidence to this building, very soon.

There are already 4 of these trees at the back of this terrace, none were planted, all self-seeded which may interest Camden Council as they will sooner or later cause subsidence to their properties also.

This tree is included in the top 25 alien, invasive plants listed by the European Plant Protection Organisation, as posing an important threat to plant health, environment and biodiversity.

Sara Redstone, Plant Health Officer at Kew Gardens is quoted as saying amateur gardeners should be vigilant, look out for sprouts and self-sown seedlings and remove them.

I suggest you "google" "Tree of Heaven" and click on an article in the Observer called "The toxic Tree of Heaven threatens England's green and pleasant land"

I believe the Camden Official who put the TPO on this tree did not realise what kind of tree he was dealing with.

Sent to Camden Planning 14/8/14 by e-mail
and letter