

Property Risk Advisory from the Conference Board of Trustees

The EPAC Board of Trustees has become aware of potential risks to church properties this winter season due to large trees that may be vulnerable to damage from heavy snow or high winds.





Recently, one of our EPA churches experienced a serious incident in which a large tree fell on an existing parsonage. This resulted in extensive damage and a significant financial burden for the congregation, including a large out-of-pocket payment due to the insurance deductible. In such cases, **EHD, our insurance carrier, may also be involved when large deductibles are required.**

To help prevent similar situations, Local Church Boards of Trustees are strongly encouraged to **survey church grounds** and assess whether any large trees present a hazard. When appropriate, preventive removal should be considered to safeguard church buildings, property, and ministry resources.

If your church requires guidance or assistance in connecting with local tree removal services, please reach out to the [Conference Trustee Board](#). We are here to help you explore preventive measures that can protect both your facilities and your mission.

We extend our gratitude to all Local Trustee Boards for their continued diligence, stewardship, and faithful ministry in protecting the resources God has entrusted to the care of our congregations.

Action Checklist for Local Trustee Boards:

-  Walk your church property and inspect all large trees.
-  Identify trees that appear weak, damaged, or at risk in heavy snow or wind.
-  Seek professional assessment if needed.
-  Take preventive action, including removal when appropriate.

-  Contact **vkmacwana@epaumc.org** if you need assistance connecting with local tree removal services.