"Preserving Lowcountry Live Oaks"

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April 21, 2026

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Tree Assessment for 1914 Central Ave., Sullivan's Island, SC

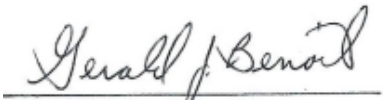
At your request, we conducted a level 2 Tree Risk Assessment of the tree on the above-mentioned property. This is an in-depth, ground-based evaluation that uses systematic observation to identify, analyze, and evaluate the risk of specific trees. It covers a 360-degree visual inspection of each individual tree from the ground only. It evaluates the tree crown, trunk, root flare and above ground roots of the trees. It also takes into consideration the site factors, and potential targets (people, structures, and infrastructures). The aim is to determine an overall risk rating for a defined time window (usually 1-2 years) using observable defects, likelihood, and consequence information. Our findings are as follows:

There is an 11+7+6" dbh Cherry Laurel tree (*Prunus caroliniana)* located on the rear property line of the above referenced location. This tree was misidentified on the attached survey as an 11+7+6" Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*). This tree is considered Tri dominant with weakly attached limbs – see photo 55. There are numerous non-compartmentalized cavities at the base of the tree at approximately 24" above grade. There is ongoing wood dissolving fungi and ongoing insect activity – see photo 57. The major stem (11" dbh) is extremely thin and the leaves are chlorotic. There are numerous limbs throughout the upper crown that are necrotic. Cherry Laurel trees struggle in coastal South Carolina, because this region combines heat, humidity, sandy soil, salt exposure, and pest pressure. All these conditions amplify the trees' natural vulnerabilities. The condition of this tree has been affected by the four most common categories of decline, which are the pest, fungal diseases, environmental stress, and site related problems. Additionally, some of the limbs have scale insects (including White Prunicola Scale) which suck sap causing yellowing leaves, stunted growth, and

dieback. There are a few sections that have been attacked by bores, causing holes in the bark, frass, and additional branch dieback. The high humidity accelerates pest reproduction and sandy soils stress out the tree, making it more susceptible to failure. We have examined the site factors, the trees health, and its species, and have determined that the likelihood of failure is probable. The likelihood of impacting a target during this specific time frame is low. Additionally, the consequences of failure of the trees branches or the entire tree are minor.

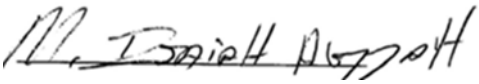
Please contact me at 843-224-1629 if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,



Gerald Benoit Sr. ISA Certified Arborist SO-0608A

Andrew Hargett ISA Certified Arborist SO-6569A
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified



M. Isaiah Abiyyah ISA Certified Arborist KY-0825A
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified