

Stump grinding is a quick and efficient way to remove stumps (and sometimes surface roots) from the landscape. The stump grinding machine is a large piece of equipment, weighing approximately 3,200 pounds. The machine is 36 inches wide, so all access points must be wider than this to allow access for the work to be done. Obstacles that prevent the use of the stump grinder are steep slopes and/or stumps located within retaining walls or other landscaped areas.

## Do I Need To Remove The Stump?

Stumps left behind after tree removals may be an obstacle or an eyesore in lawns and landscape areas. They can last for decades, and may produce suckers and shoots until the stump dies. In order to plant something new in the area of the stump, complete removal is necessary.

## Professional & Safe Stump Grinding

Rainbow Treecare staff are trained to safely operate stump grinding machinery and navigate underground utilities.

Stump grinding is not done on the same day as a tree removal. To ensure safety, our office contacts Gopher State One Call to determine the location of public utilities (electricity, natural gas, communication and water). After public utilities are located and marked for the site, we schedule and perform the grinding service.

If the location of an underground utility is within 24 inches of the stump, we take further safety measures to pinpoint the exact location of the utility in question. In these cases, we use a compressed air tool (Air Spade) to uncover and expose underground utilities. This process is called “daylighting”, as it makes the utilities clearly visible. Daylighting ensures that contact and damage will be prevented during the grinding operation. When necessary, daylighting is provided at an additional cost as noted on your proposal.

## Privately Installed Utilities

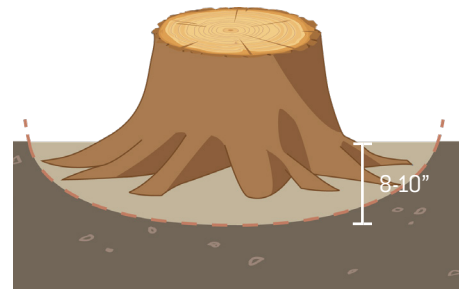
Gopher State One Call does not locate private lines that belong to a homeowner or property owner. This can include electric lines to detached garages, invisible fencing, decorative lighting, natural gas lines to grills, and irrigation lines. *The property owner is responsible for having these lines located before stump grinding.*



Stump grinder



Removing stump safely



Grinding the stump down to 8-10" below the soil surface

## Stump Grinding Options

Depending on your needs, we offer a number of options for removal of your stumps. Standard stump grinding removes the stump to 8-10" below the soil surface; if desired, surface roots in the area are specified for grinding as well. We aim to bring the elevated root flare area around the base of the stump into level with the grade of its surroundings.

The options we offer are as follows:

**Grind Stump, Leave Chips:** The stump grinding process tends to leave behind a large volume of chips mixed with soil from the immediate area. Some customers like to use this material for mulch in gardens or landscaped areas. This is a lower cost option, as there is less labor required on our part.

**Grind Stump, Haul Excess Chips:** Though it is possible to leave the chips on site, most customers prefer to have us haul away them away. With this option, we rake the mixture of chips and soil back into the hole left in the ground and level it out to the grade of the surrounding area.

**Grind Stump, Haul Excess Chips, Backfill with Topsoil:** With this option, we haul away the bulk of the chips, then fill the hole left from the stump grind with fresh topsoil, and apply grass seed to the area.

**Grind Stump Extra Deep (to 14" maximum depth):** Extra deep grinding below grade may allow for planting of shrubs or small trees in the same location. This Extra Deep service must be requested and specified on your proposal.

