



Trees are not just our business, they are our Heritage.

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**Tree assessment:  
Barton Springs Pool's "Flo" Pecan. Austin Tx 78704. 08/25/2023**



**PREPARED FOR:**

Joshua Erickson  
Urban Forestry Program manager  
512-974-9545  
[Joshua.Erickson@austintexas.gov](mailto:Joshua.Erickson@austintexas.gov)

**PREPARED BY:**

Vincent Debrock  
Senior Consultant, Heritage Tree Care  
O: 512-921-8452. [REDACTED]  
[vincent@txheritagetreecare.com](mailto:vincent@txheritagetreecare.com)  
ISA-Board Certified Master Arborist #TX 1336-BQ  
ISA-Qualified Tree Risk Assessor  
TFS-Qualified fire mitigation specialist

Site visit 08-25-2023.

Scope: assess leaning Pecan tree.

**Conservation rating:** imminent hazard.

**Risk rating** for a 1-year timeframe: **Extreme**

Tree size: 45.50 inches diameter at 4.5 ft high.

**Recommendation:** Remove.

The tree was assessed visually from the root flare to the canopy top. This tree is very likely to fail in the one-year time frame defined, by either having the canopy fail at the second support beam or by collapse of the stem at the root flare area.



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A younger and safe tree is already present and established nearby which showcases the foresight of the site managers that have preserved “flo” as long as possible. On a more personal note, we are impressed with the thoroughness of the inspector that has found the infection, as its location is very difficult to access. Indeed, Kresthmaria is a rapidly developing infection with an often-imminent likelihood of failure.

Condition of concern description:

We found 2 condition of concern, one which will become worse due the action of the first condition.

**1: Kresthmaria deusta infection.** The lab results provided by the client as well as our own visual inspection (see attached photos). This fungus is a well know rot mostly visible at the soil line of the root flare. It rapidly damages the root system and sapwood in the root crown and below, with the consequences being a total failure of the tree. It is most found on hackberry trees, being in fact responsible for the extreme majority of total failure of that species, giving the hackberry trees a bad name as a weak tree. It is less commonly found on Pecan trees, possibly because they are well defended against humid soil condition as they are specialized riparian trees. However, once infected, Pecan trees tend to have very poor compartmentalizing which allows a decay organism to spread quickly.

**2: Main stem beyond the second support beam:** Per personal communication from the urban forestry program manager, the existing historical cavity has already been investigated 2 or 3 years ago due to the concern of potential failure of the canopy over the pool area. We have not been provided the results of this investigation. We share that concern seeing as the cavity is significant and could run well beyond the support point.

**3: The combination of the 1<sup>st</sup> and second conditions:** As the Kresthmaria infection spreads further and reduces the sap flow capacity to the remaining canopy, we expect the other defects to increase as well, compounding the risk of failure.

Supporting photographic evidence:



*1: Kretshamaria evidence: typical "charcoal" bark collected during our inspection.*



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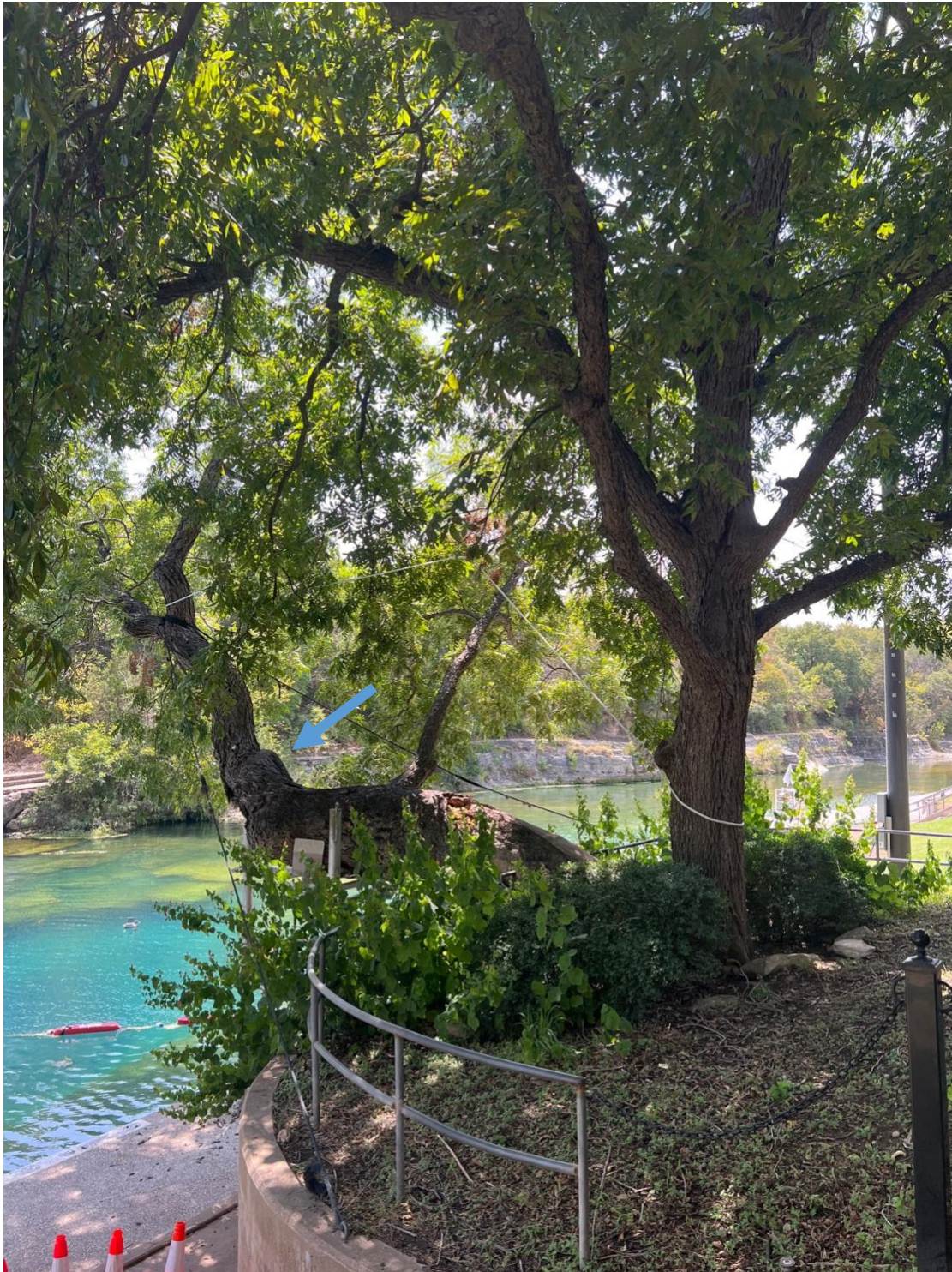
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*2: support system*

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3: blue arrow showing the defect past the second support point.



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*4 target area and showcasing the lean*

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*5: second support, defect location, and size of part of concern*



6: extend of heartwood loss, alternate view of defect at second support point.





*7: root flare on north side, showcasing difficulty of inspection as well as the bark texture change hinting at declining sapwood.*

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*8: opposite side of main stem: no remaining heartwood.*

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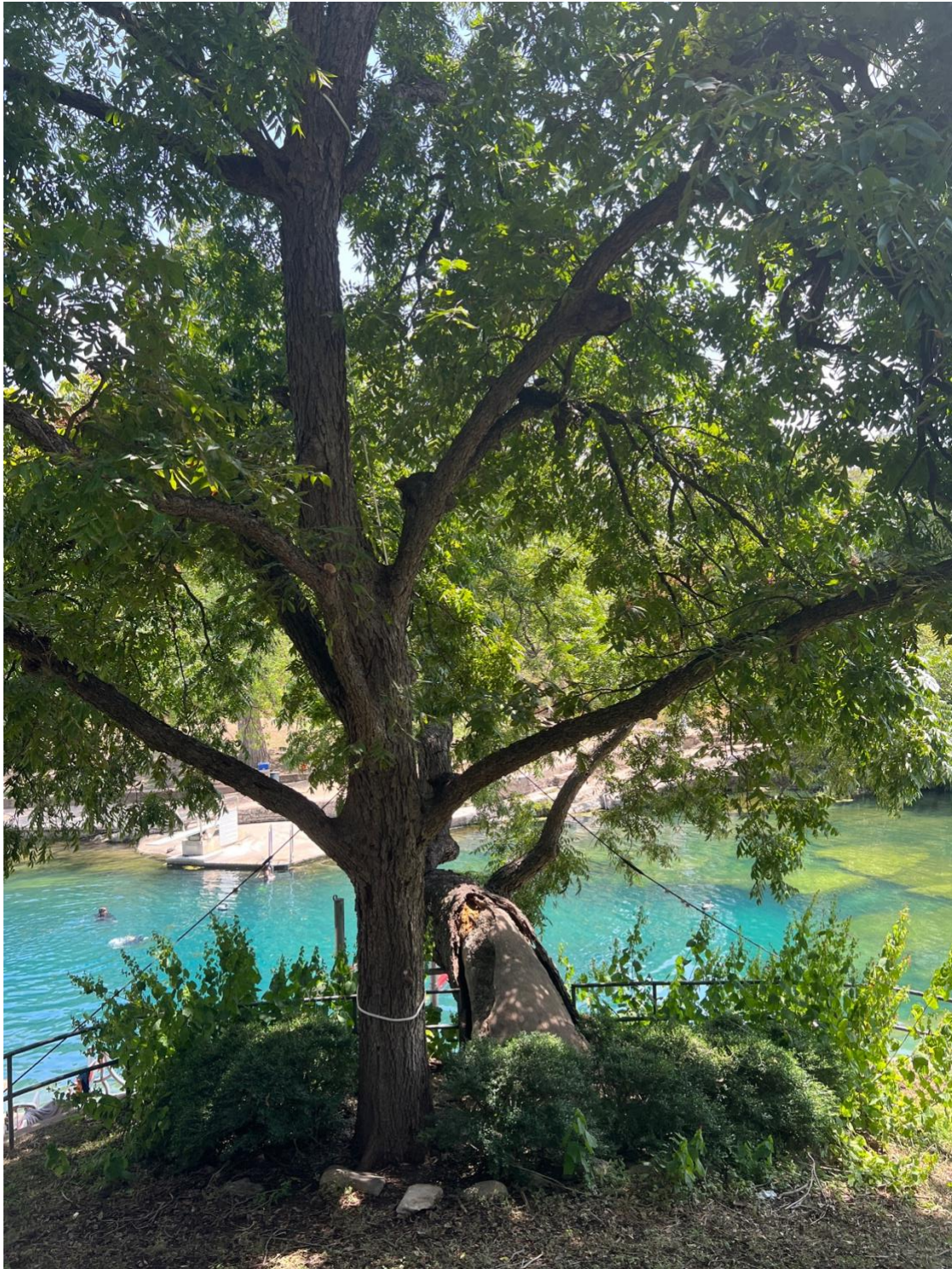


9: opposite view of target area and defect at second support point.



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*10: showcasing the replacement tree and the sapwood shell from FLO around the concrete fill.*



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**Assessment disclaimer:**

Trees inherently pose a certain degree of hazard and risk from breakage, failure or other causes and conditions. Recommendations and assessments that are made by Heritage Tree Care, LLC are intended to minimize or reduce hazardous conditions that may be associated with trees. However, there is and there can be no guaranty or certainty that efforts to correct unsafe conditions will prevent breakage or failure of the tree. Any recommendations made should reduce the risk of tree failure, but they cannot eliminate such risk, especially in the event of a storm or any act of God. There can be no guaranty or certainty that all hazardous conditions will be detected. Common sense, experience, and professional judgment are required from the trained Arborist. It is ultimately up to the trained Arborist on the site to determine the risk potential of a tree to fail.