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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 28, 2018**



**THE DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Ohio**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**000-11917**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**34-0176110**  
(Employer Identification  
Number)

**1500 North Mantua Street  
P.O. Box 5193  
Kent, Ohio 44240**  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**(330) 673-9511**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging Growth Company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers**

On March 28, 2018, J. Dawson Cunningham provided notice to the Board of Directors of The Davey Tree Expert Company (the “Company”) of his intention to retire as a director of the Company at the conclusion of the Company’s 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held on May 15, 2018. Mr. Cunningham has been a director of the Company since 2005. There are no disagreements between Mr. Cunningham and the Company on any matter relating to the Company’s operations, policies or practices.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**THE DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY**

By: /s/ Joseph R. Paul  
Joseph R. Paul  
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
and Secretary (Principal Financial Officer)

Date: March 29, 2018