UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101) INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant \square Filed by a Party other than the Registrant \square Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- □ Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- □ Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-12

THE DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter) (Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- \square No fee required.
- \Box Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
 - (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

- □ Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- ☐ Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
 - (1) Amount Previously Paid:
 - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
 - (3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

*** Exercise Your Right to Vote *** Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting to Be Held on June 18, 2020.

THE DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY



Meeting Information

Meeting Type:		Annual Meeting
For holders as of:		April 13, 2020
Date: June 18, 2020		Time: 5:00 PM EDT
Location:	Meeting live via the Internet-please visit	
www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/DVTX2020		

The company will be hosting the meeting live via the Internet this year. There will be no physical location at which Shareholders may attend the meeting. To participate in the meeting via the Internet, please visit www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/DVTX2020 and be sure to have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow \rightarrow XXXX XXXX (located on the following page)

You are receiving this communication because you hold shares in the company named above.

This is not a ballot. You cannot use this notice to vote these shares. This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you on the Internet. You may view the proxy materials online at *www.proxyvote.com* or easily request a paper copy (see reverse side).

We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting.

See the reverse side of this notice to obtain proxy materials and voting instructions.

- Before You Vote -

How to Access the Proxy Materials

Proxy Materials Available to VIEW or RECEIVE: NOTICE AND PROXY STATEMENT FORM 10-K How to View Online: Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) and visit: www.proxyvote.com. How to Request and Receive a PAPER or E-MAIL Copy: If you want to receive a paper or e-mail copy of these documents, you must request one. There is NO charge for requesting a copy. Please choose one of the following methods to make your request: 1) BY INTERNET: www.proxyvote.com 2) BY TELEPHONE: 1-800-579-1639 3) BY E-MAIL*: sendmaterial@proxyvote.com If requesting materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow \rightarrow XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) in the subject line. Please make the request as instructed above on or before June 4, 2020 to facilitate timely delivery.

— How To Vote — Please Choose One of the Following Voting Methods

Vote By Internet:

Before The Meeting:

Go to *www.proxyvote.com*. Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) available and follow the instructions.

During The Meeting:

Go to *www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/DVTX2020*. Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) available and follow the instructions.

Vote by Mail: You can vote by mail by requesting a paper copy of the materials, which will include a proxy card.

THE DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote to elect the nominees listed on Proposal 1 and vote FOR Proposal 2.

1. Election of nominees for director. The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR all listed nominees.

Nominees:

- 1a. Patrick M. Covey
- 1b. Sandra W. Harbrecht
- 1c. Charles D. Stapleton
- 2. Approve on an advisory, nonbinding basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in the Proxy Statement.

NOTE: Any other matter that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.