

CITRUS COUNTY TREE PRESERVATION GUIDELINES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

DEVELOPING A SITE

- ◆ Tree removal permit is required
- ◆ Two options for obtaining a permit:
 1. Submitting a site plan that shows proposed areas of tree preservation and tree clearing.
 2. Signing a tree removal affidavit that affirms the number of required trees will be maintained.
- ◆ A notation establishing the minimum tree preservation requirements should be included under either option.
- ◆ The minimum tree requirement is dependent on property size as follows:
 1. Lots 10,890 square feet or less: Two trees
 2. Lots greater than 10,890 square feet, but less than 21,780 square feet: Four trees
 3. Lots greater than 21,780 square feet, but less than 32,760 square feet: Five trees
 4. Lots greater than 32,760 square feet, but less than 43,560 square feet: Six trees
 5. Lots greater than 43,560 square feet: Eight trees minimum with one tree for every additional 3,000 square feet over 43,560 square feet or fraction thereof
- ◆ Trees do not have to be planted to meet minimum standards if there are not enough trees on the property to meet requirements prior to development as long as unauthorized tree removal hasn't taken place (in such a case, trees should be replaced to meet the number present prior to development)
- ◆ If there are insufficient trees on the property before development to meet the minimum standard or if no tree removal will take place, an affidavit is all that will be required
- ◆ Subject property should be checked for canopy road protected status (requires more preservation along road)
- ◆ Tree removal permit should normally be processed concurrently with a building permit

VACANT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (before development permit is in hand)

- ◆ Tree removal permit is required (affidavit is not sufficient, even for lots under 2 acres)
- ◆ A site plan drawn to scale should be submitted showing areas of proposed tree preservation and tree clearing
- ◆ Justification for tree removal should be provided
- ◆ Minimum tree requirement must be maintained
- ◆ Needs to be routed for review
- ◆ Unauthorized tree removal (after-the-fact) will be subject to mitigation (reforestation or payment)

EXEMPTIONS (no permit required)

- ◆ Tree removal on developed residential lots that meet minimum tree preservation standards
- ◆ Tree removal on publicly owned land that has the approval of the land-managing agency
- ◆ Bona fide agriculture and silviculture (tree farm) operations as well as licensed plant or tree nurseries
- ◆ Utility and Public Works maintenance along road rights-of-way or utility easements
- ◆ Trees that are fallen, irreversibly diseased, dead, or listed as "invasive" (
- ◆ Some cases within commonly owned lands and planned developments

OTHER INFORMATION

- ◆ Regulated trees are 4 inches and greater at diameter breast height (4 ½ feet above ground)
- ◆ Trees over 24 inches dbh are considered specimen size (not applicable to residential property)
- ◆ Tree removal requests for nonresidential property has additional requirements and should be routed through the Nonresidential Review Coordinator
- ◆ Replacement trees should be at least 2 inches caliper (six inches above the ground) and be Florida Grade #1
- ◆ Preserved trees should be roped off and protected from development activity