



# TREE AND LANDSCAPING FAQ

Rev: 2 | Revision Date: 3/27/2017 | Print Date: 3/27/2017 I.D. Number: TLFAQ

## DO ALL TREES REQUIRE PERMITS FOR REMOVAL?

No permit nor replacements shall be required for removal of Schinus spp. (Pepper Trees, Florida Holly), Metopium toxiferum (Poison Wood), Casuarinas spp. (Australian Pine, Beefwood), Melaleuca spp. (Paper Bark Trees), Euphorbia tirucalli (Pencil Tree), Bischofia javanica (Bischofia, Bishopwood), Acacia auriculaeformis (Earleaf Acacia), Araucaria excelsia (Norfolk Island Pine), Cupaniopsis anacardioides (Carrotwood), or Schefflera actinophylla (Schefflera).

## WHEN IS A TREE PERMIT REQUIRED?

Tree Permits are required for:

- A developed one family lot not planned for redevelopment when the tree has 8" DBH and greater; the palm has 8' CT and greater.
- All properties in all zoning districts where this site is planned for redevelopment when the tree has 3" DBH and greater; the palm has 8' CT and greater.

## WHEN IS A LANDSCAPE PERMIT REQUIRED?

A landscape permit is required for the installation, removal, or replacement of any required landscaping in accordance with the landscape code.

## HOW MUCH DOES THE TREE PERMIT APPLICATION COST?

The tree permit application is a minimum \$170.00 (excluding single-family), and \$25.00 per tree. For work done without a permit, the fees are four times the minimum amounts when it can be determined that the current owner is responsible and two times the minimum amounts when it cannot be determined that the current owner is responsible.

## HOW MUCH DOES THE LANDSCAPE PERMIT APPLICATION COST?

The landscape permit application is a minimum \$90.00. For work done without a permit, the fees are four times the minimum amounts when it can be determined that the current owner is responsible and two times the minimum amounts when it cannot be determined that the current owner is responsible.

## HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THE EQUIVALENT REPLACEMENT OF TREES WILL BE?

Equivalent replacement is a tree or trees due to its classification, condition and size is determined by the department to be equivalent to the tree or trees which it replaces.

## HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THE EQUIVALENT VALUE FOR TREE REPLACEMENT WILL BE?

Equivalent value is an amount of money determined by the cross sectional diameter (in<sup>2</sup>) of the tree by the classified value of the species

Note that the site shall meet minimum landscaping requirements. After met and verified at time of inspection, equivalent value may be determined as a payment into the Tree Canopy Trust Fund.

## WHERE DO I SUBMIT THE PERMIT APPLICATIONS?

The complete submittal may be submitted in person to the Greg Brewton Sustainable Development Center  
700 NW 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311.

Or, previously allowable fax permits will now be sent via email to [epermit@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:epermit@fortlauderdale.gov) Fax permits are no longer acceptable. *Please note that scanned permits are a copy of the original which allows the review process to start. The original permit application must be submitted to complete the review and permit issuance. A permit will not be issued without the original application on file.*

## WHAT IS A SPECIMEN TREE?

A specimen tree is any tree which has a trunk diameter of 18" and greater and has a 70% condition rating and better, and is a Class C tree and higher. A separate tree permit application for tree removal must be submitted. Removal of a specimen tree can only be mitigated by providing equivalent value payment into the tree canopy trust fund at the time the specimen tree removal permit is issued.

## WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES OF TREE REPLACEMENT?

The categories of trees are based on species and their growth characteristics in South Florida hardiness zones.

## HOW LONG IS THE TREE AND/OR LANDSCAPE PERMIT ACTIVE?

The permit is active for six months. However, the replacement trees for the Tree Permit shall be installed within 2 months from the date of tree removal.

## WHAT IF MY PERMIT IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE OR HAS EXPIRED?

A permit can be renewed at any time by submitting either a Landscape or Tree Permit application for renewal. If the permit is about to expire, the permit fee is 50% of the original. If the permit has expired, the permit fee is 100% of the original. Replacement requirements still apply.