



TREE AND LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION PERMIT FAQ

Rev: 3 | Revision Date: 08/28/2026 | I.D. Number: E-LND-11

PURPOSE: Provides assistance with frequently asked questions pertaining to tree permit (LND-TREE) and landscape installation permit (LND-INST) applications.

DO ALL TREES REQUIRE PERMITS FOR REMOVAL?

- No permit nor replacements shall be required for removal of a plant species identified as prohibited and controlled by any of the following:
 - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, [Chapter 5B-57](#), Florida Administrative Code (FAC)
 - Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) Category I [List of Invasive Plant Species](#)
 - *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
- No permit will be required for the removal of a dead tree or palm on any developed property. Any dead tree or palm on developed property shall be completely removed including the stump and roots.
 - If a dead tree or palm fulfilled a landscape code requirement, a replacement tree or palm is required to be installed to meet that requirement.

WHEN IS A TREE PERMIT REQUIRED?

- A tree permit (LND-TREE) is required prior to the removal or relocation of any of the following:
 - A dicot or conifer tree having a DBH of three (3) inches or greater
 - A monocot or palm having eight (8) feet or greater of clear trunk
 - Desirable tree and palms
 - City Commission protected trees
 - Specimen trees

WHEN IS A LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION PERMIT REQUIRED?

- A landscape installation permit (LND-INST) is required for the installation, removal, or replacement of any required landscaping in accordance with the City's [Unified Land Development Code Section 47-21.5](#).

HOW MUCH DOES THE TREE PERMIT APPLICATION COST?

- For single-family developed sites, the tree permit (LND-TREE) application is a flat rate of \$159.00, inclusive of two trees or palms, plus \$53.00 per each additional tree or palm.
- For all other sites, the tree permit (LND-TREE) application is a flat rate of \$265.00 plus \$53.00 for each tree or palm.
- For removals and/or relocations done without first obtaining a tree permit, a four times (4x) after-the-fact fee shall be applied to the above listed prices.

HOW MUCH DOES THE LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION PERMIT APPLICATION COST?

- The landscape installation permit (LND-INST) application is a flat rate of \$371.00.

WHERE DO I SUBMIT PERMIT APPLICATIONS?

- As of January 1, 2024, all items shall be submitted electronically to [LauderBuild](#).
 - For in person inquiry or paper permits dated prior to 2024, visit:
Development Services Department
Building Services Division
700 NW 19TH Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311



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HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THE MITIGATION REQUIREMENT FOR TREE REMOVAL WILL BE?

- Mitigation equivalent replacement planting amount for tree removal is determined using a formula which factors in the tree species classification, health condition rating and trunk diameter size. For palm removal, mitigation equivalent replacement is 1:1.
- Mitigation equivalent value dollar amount for tree removal is a minimum of \$250.00 per inch of equivalent replacement planting required. For palms, mitigation equivalent value is a minimum of \$25.00 per total clear trunk measurement of all removed palms.
- Note that the site shall meet minimum landscape code requirements. Once met and verified at time of inspection, mitigation equivalent value may be accepted as a payment into the Tree Canopy Trust Fund.

WHAT IS A SPECIMEN TREE?

- A specimen tree is any tree which meets the following criteria:
 - Specifically listed in the City's Tree Classification List (Class A, B or C)
 - Condition rating of 60% or greater
 - Possesses a minimum trunk diameter measurement (DBH):
 - Large maturing species: 18+"
 - Medium maturing species: 13+"
 - Small maturing species: 8+"
- A separate tree permit (LND-TREE) application is required for proposed specimen tree removal or relocation.
- Note that removal of a specimen tree shall be mitigated by providing an equivalent value payment into the Tree Canopy Trust Fund prior to issuance of the specimen tree removal permit.

WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES OF TREE REPLACEMENT?

- The City's tree replacement list and palm replacement list are compiled based on species and their growth characteristics in South Florida's [USDA Plant Hardiness Zones](#).

HOW LONG IS THE PERMIT ACTIVE FOR?

- The permit is active for six months. However, the replacement trees for the tree permit (LND-TREE) shall be installed within 2 months from the date of tree removal.

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

- A permit can be renewed at any time by submitting either a landscape installation (LND-INST) application or tree permit (LND-TREE) application for renewal in LauderBuild.
 - If the permit is about to expire, the permit fee is 50% of the original.
 - If the permit has already expired, the permit fee is 100% of the original.
- Mitigation equivalent replacement and/or equivalent value requirements still apply.