Tree Protection Requirements for All Construction

903. L Tree Protection During Clearing, Grubbing, and Development. Prior to the commencement of any site clearing or vegetation alteration, other than mowing, a clearing/grubbing permit shall be obtained from the Construction Services Department. All applications for clearing, grubbing, grading, building, or demolition shall include a Tree Protection Zone Plan (TPZ). The TPZ shall be designed to protect the trees and their roots on site as well as those on neighboring properties. Grading, filling, ditching and storage in the tree protection zone are prohibited. For all lots containing only one single-family residence and its accessory uses in Single-family (R), Multifamily (RM), or residential Planned Unit Development (PUD), a TPZ shall be designed to protect any and all significant and landmark trees. For all other properties a TPZ shall be designed to protect any and all protected and landmark trees. The TPZ shall include the following.

1. Details for avoiding or protecting tree roots in trenching plans for underground construction, including utility placement and foundation construction.
2. A detailed grading plan.
3. Assurances that soil disturbance under the canopy of each tree will be limited to ANSI A300 (current edition) standards. Any soil added under the canopy of the tree must be loamy soil mix to ensure compaction is minimized.
4. Detailed plans for temporary wooden barricades or orange fencing that must be erected before the commencement of any site clearing and grading. The fence is to be a minimum of four feet high above grade with a rigid frame of 4” X 4” post and 22” X 4” rails at 2’ and 4’ above grade and across the top. The posts shall be set deep enough in the ground to be stable without additional support. The barricades or fencing for protection and landmark trees shall be placed outside the critical tree root zone of the tree. Nothing shall be placed inside of the chain link fencing. When paving, excavating or hardscaping has been permitted within the boundaries of the barricades or fencing, the barricades or fencing shall be moved back to a secondary location at the edge of the work. When the secondary location is within the critical tree root zone as defined by ANSI A300 (current edition) and approved as such by a certified arborist, the barricades or fencing shall not include subterranean supports and shall be securely supported entirely above the ground. "Tree
Protection Zone – Caution Do Not Enter” signs shall be posted visibly on all sides of the fenced area.

5. Detailed utility location plans. Utilities shall not be installed in the tree protection zone. All roots outside the protective barricade to be removed during development shall be severed clean and a two-inch layer of mulch shall be applied over the surface of exposed roots during development.
   a. Trenching shall be no closer than six times the diameter at breast height (DBH) to the effected tree nor disrupt more than 30 percent of the drip line root area.
   b. No other types of disturbance or construction shall be allowed under the drip line of any tree without prior approval by the zone administrator.

6. One corridor designated for site access, preferably where the driveway or parking area will be located. Limit construction equipment access, material storage, fuel tanks, chemical or cement rising, vehicle parking and site office locations to non-tree areas.

7. A water and fertilizer plan as required to maintain tree health during construction work.

8. Plans to repair trees wounded or stressed during construction. Any wounds to the bark shall be cleaned to sound wood by removing loose bark and wood, leaving a smooth edge around the wound. Do not apply a wound dressing.

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Rowe at 843-918-1179.

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