



# Miami-Dade County

## Tree Removal Permit Application Package

### The Benefits of Trees

**Trees fight pollution.** A typical healthy tree can remove up to 48 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the air every year. CO<sub>2</sub> is one of the leading causes of "The Greenhouse Effect." Tree roots can also help to filter groundwater and reduce erosion.

**Shade from trees helps to keep buildings, streets, and parking lots cool.** Evidence indicates that well-positioned shade trees can cut a building's cooling costs by up to 50 %. Trees also help to cool the air in our cities through evapotranspiration.

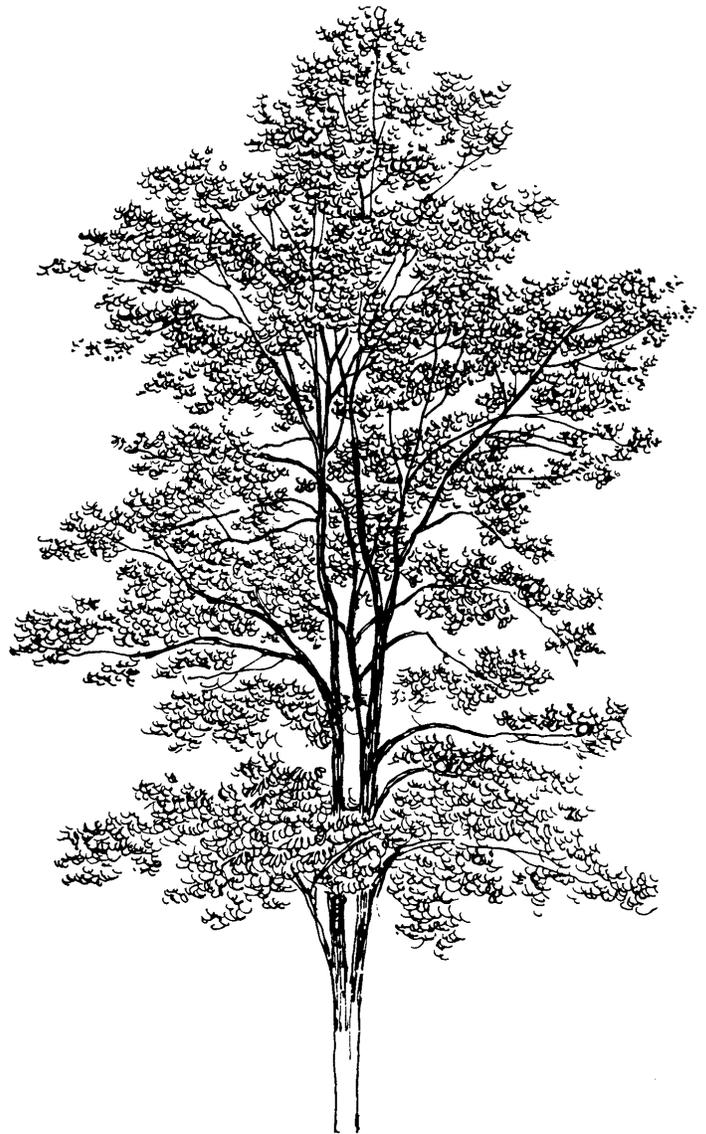
**Trees provide habitat for wildlife.** They provide shelter and food for a variety of birds and small animals, such as squirrels.

**Trees can add up to 15 % to property values.** They also make our neighborhoods and city streets more attractive to tourists and investors.

Miami-Dade County is not alone in its efforts to preserve its trees. Communities throughout the nation are recognizing the importance of urban forests and are passing laws to protect them.

You can help by reporting any illegal tree removal or excessive pruning to DERM [24-hour: (305) 372-6955], and by planting more trees whenever possible. For more information about landscaping with trees, or about tree pest and diseases, contact the Miami-Dade County Cooperative Extension Service.

*Miami-Dade County Cooperative  
Extension Service  
18710 SW 288 Street  
Homestead, FL 33031  
Phone: (305) 248-3311*



Miami-Dade County  
Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources  
701 N.W. 1 Court, 6th floor, Miami, Florida 33136-3912  
Phone: (305) 372-6574 Fax: (305) 372-6479  
email to: [TFRS@miamidade.gov](mailto:TFRS@miamidade.gov)  
On the web at: [www.miamidade.gov/environment/trees.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/trees.asp)

# Tree Removal Permit General Information

Section 24-49 of the Miami-Dade County Code mandates the protection of the County's tree and forest resources. The following information should assist you in understanding Miami-Dade County's tree and forest protection requirements. Please take the time to read this information carefully before filling out the attached application.

## What types of tree and forest resources does the ordinance protect?

There are three categories of protected tree resources in Miami-Dade County: "Non-specimen size" trees (less than 18" dbh\*), "specimen-size" trees (18" or greater dbh\*), and Natural Forest Communities (NFC's), which includes grasses, shrubs, and trees.

### Definitions:

A tree is defined as any woody or fibrous perennial plant having a minimum trunk dbh of three (3) inches or greater or with an Over All Height (OAH) of twelve (12) or more feet.

Specimen tree shall mean a tree with any individual trunk which has a dbh of eighteen (18) inches or greater.

\*dbh = Trunk diameter measured at a point 4 1/2 ft. above the ground

## Where and when are tree removal permits required?

Tree removal permits are required for the removal or relocation of any tree in Miami-Dade County, except for certain exemptions. Permits are also required for any work in any designated Natural Forest Community (i.e. pinelands and hammocks). DERM may require the property owner to modify a site plan to preserve tree and forest resources.

## How can I confirm if my tree requires a tree removal permit?

There are numerous species of trees that are on Miami-Dade County's exempt and prohibited species list and yet other trees that do not require a permit for removal due to their size or location. You can verify whether a tree permit is required by sending us good quality photos of the tree with a close up of the leaves, the address where the tree is located, and the dbh of the tree. Photos along with the above mentioned information can be sent to the following email address: [treeandforest@miamidade.gov](mailto:treeandforest@miamidade.gov)

## What about the trimming of trees?

Tree removal permits are not required for the selective pruning of trees, provided the pruning is done according to the most recent American National Standards (ANSI) A-300 Standard Practices for Tree Care Operations. However, excessive pruning (i.e. hatracking, topping, etc.) which results in the effective destruction of a tree constitutes a violation of Section 24-49 of the environmental Code of Miami-Dade County. Any other activity that can effectively destroy a tree, such as trunk girdling, excessive root cutting, or use of tree-killing chemicals, also violates Miami-Dade County Code.

## Will I be required to replant trees for the ones that I remove?

All "non-specimen size" trees you remove -- except for the exempt or prohibited species -- must be replaced with an equal amount (100%) of tree canopy. "Specimen-sized" trees require double canopy replacement as well as a required equitable contribution to the Miami-Dade County Tree Trust Fund (TTF). Canopy replacement can be satisfied by planting Florida grade #1 or better quality trees from the categories below:

Canopy Credit Formulas		
Replacement Canopy Type	Min. Size At Planting	Canopy Credit (Sq ft)
Shade Tree 1	12' OAH*	500
Shade Tree 2	8' OAH	300
Palm 1	10' OAH	300
Palm 2	3' OAH	100
Small Tree	6' OAH	200

\*OAH = Over All Height

You may be required to replant more than one species of tree.

## What fees do I have to pay for a tree removal permit?

A non-refundable application fee (based on zoning) and initial inspection fee is required upon permit application submission. Additional fees may be charged prior to permit issuance based on the specifics of the application. **A 7.5% surcharge will be added to your total tree permit fees.**

## What municipalities enforce their own tree protection ordinance?

The following cities/municipalities enforce their own tree protection ordinance. Please contact your city/municipality for more information on their permitting process.

Miami	(305) 416-1416
Miami Beach	(305) 673-7000
Coral Gables	(305) 460-5135
Miami Springs	(305) 805-5170
North Miami	(305) 893-6511 X19012
North Miami Beach	(305) 948-2965
South Miami	(305) 663-6326
Homestead	(305) 224-4500
Pincrest	(305) 234-2121-Trees
Miami Lakes	(305) 634-6100
Miami Gardens	(305) 622-8000 X2628

## What about stands of natural forest such as hardwood hammocks or pinelands?

If a site has been designated as a Natural Forest Community or if you think a site may contain environmentally sensitive resources, please contact the Tree & Forest Resources Program at **(305) 372-6574** for more information.

# Tree Permit Application



Tree & Forest Resources Section  
 701 N.W. 1 Court, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Miami, Florida 33136  
 T (305) 372-6574 F (305) 372-6479

**FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY**

Updated 12/21/2021

<b>Date Received:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Received By:</b>	<b>Application Fee (other fees may be applicable):</b>

**Application Type:**  Removal  Relocation  Removal & Relocation

**After-the-Fact:**  No  Yes **COM #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Application must be filled out in its entirety. Please indicate N/A for non-applicable fields.**

<p><b>1. Property Owner's Information:</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Zip Code: _____</p> <p>Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p><small>* This should be the applicant/owner's information for contact purposes.</small></p>	<p><b>2. Property Owner's Authorized Permit Agent:</b></p> <p><small>The name and contact information for the Agent that is authorized by the owner to process the application, furnish information relating to the application and bind the applicant to all requirements of the application/permit document.</small></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Zip Code: _____</p> <p>Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>
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**3. Site Location and Description where the proposed activity exists or will occur:**

Folio #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Does intended use of the property require re-zoning or plat?  Yes  No

City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Zoning (check all that apply):

Single Family  Multi-Family  Commercial  Business  Agricultural  Swale/Right-of-Way  Other

**4. Work Description:**

Building permit process number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Number and type of tree(s) to be removed, or relocated. Include trees affected by improper trimming or removed without a permit:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Location of the tree(s) stated above: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for tree removal and/or relocation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Attachments (check all that apply): (e.g. site sketch, plans etc.):

Site Sketch  Plans  Photographs  Arborist Assessment  Tree Survey  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS:**

The written consent of the Property Owner is required for all applications to be considered complete. Your application WILL NOT BE PROCESSED unless the Property Owner consent portion of the application is completed below. You have the obligation to notify the Department in writing of any changes to information provided in this application.

Application is hereby made for a Miami-Dade County tree permit to authorize the activities described herein. I agree to or affirm the following:

- I possess the authority to authorize the proposed activities at the subject property, and
- I am familiar with the information, data and plans contained in this application, and
- To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information, data and plans submitted are true, complete and accurate, and
- I am authorizing the permit agent listed in Section 2 of this application to process the application, furnish supplemental information relating to this application and bind the property owner(s) to all requirements of this application/permit document, and
- I agree to provide access and allow entry to the project site to inspectors and authorized representatives of Miami-Dade County for the purpose of making the preliminary analyses of the site and to monitor permitted activities and adherence to all permit conditions.

**A. IF PROPERTY OWNER IS AN INDIVIDUAL**

Signature of Property Owner	Print Property Owner's Name	Date

**B. IF PROPERTY OWNER IS OTHER THAN AN INDIVIDUAL OR NATURAL PERSON**

(Examples: Corporation, Partnership, Trust, LLC, LLP, etc.)

Print Name of Property Owner (Enter the complete name as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC, LLP, etc.)	State of Registration/Incorporation

**Under the penalty of perjury, I certify that I have the authority to sign this application/permit document on behalf of the Property Owner, to bind the Property Owner, and if so required to authorize the issuance of a bond on behalf of the Property Owner. (If asked, you must provide proof of such authority to the Department). \*\*\*Please Note: If additional signatures are required, pursuant to your governing documents, operating agreements, or other applicable agreements or laws, you must attach additional signature pages. \*\*\***

Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Representative's Name	Title	Date

**C. IF THE APPLICANT IS A JOINT VENTURE** Each party must sign below (If more than two members, list on attached page)

Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC, LLP, etc.)	State of Registration/Incorporation

Print Name of Applicant (Enter the complete name as registered)	Type (Corp, LLC, LLP, etc.)	State of Registration/Incorporation

**Under the penalty of perjury, I certify that I have the authority to sign this application/permit document on behalf of the Property Owner, to bind the Property Owner, and if so required to authorize the issuance of a bond on behalf of the Property Owner. (If asked, you must provide proof of such authority to the Department). \*\*\*Please Note: If additional signatures are required, pursuant to your governing documents, operating agreements, or other applicable agreements or laws, you must attach additional signature pages. \*\*\***

Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Representative's Name	Title	Date

Signature of Authorized Representative	Print Authorized Representative's Name	Title	Date



