



LDR: TREE PRESERVATION, PROTECTION & REPLACEMENT

City of Venice Florida City Council Presentation

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LDR Update – Topic for Today

Chapter 89 – Environmental Regulations

Trees (formerly Chapter 118 Tree Preservation, Protection & Replacement)

What are the Key Changes / Major Topics of this Regulation?

- Replacing Chapter 118 and County Standards per Ord No. 83-44 *County Tree Protection Ordinance*
- Provide clear (and updated) Standards for the planting / replanting, removal, and maintenance of trees in conjunction with Florida Friendly Landscaping Standards
- Address standards adopted as part of F.S. § 163.045

What are the Key Changes / Major Topics of this Regulation to current Sarasota County?

- Updated Definitions
 - More technical arboricultural terminology
 - Tree Inch (Caliper & DBH)
 - Problem Tree
 - Tree Category Classifications
- Prohibitions, Exemptions & Permits
 - Creates a “Tree Permit” application process
 - Including master tree plan
- Tree Preservation & Replacement Standards
 - Determining Suitability for Removal / Preservation
 - Flexibility and Incentive Options
- “Tree Mitigation Fund”
- Enforcement

When is a Tree Permit Required?

Commercial / Multi – Family/ PUD/ Industrial

- ✓ Pruning & Trimming of any Heritage or Venetian Tree
- ✓ Removal of a Protected, Heritage or Venetian Tree
 - Must present a safety hazard, the tree is in decline/ diseased/ injured

Residential (Single Family Lot/ Homeowner)

- *Note: Criteria will be dependent on adoption of F.S. § 163.045*
- ✓ Pruning & Trimming of any Heritage or Venetian Tree
- ✓ Removal of a Protected, Heritage or Venetian Tree
 - Must present a safety hazard, the tree is in decline/ diseased/ injured

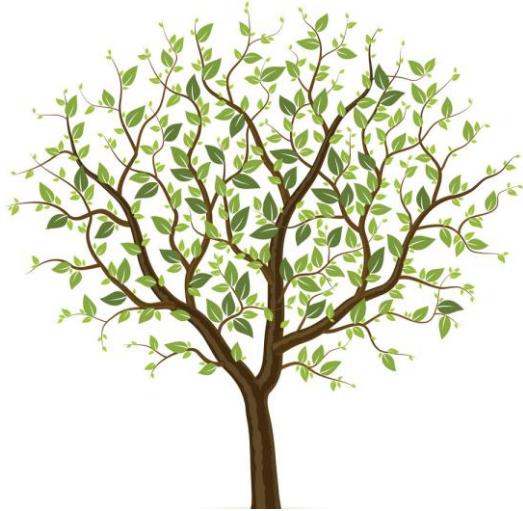
Current Sarasota Code Requires a tree permit:

- for tree removal or relocation.
- pruning or causing irreparable injury to trees in a Canopy Road Protection Zone or Right-of-Way.
- planting trees or other vegetation within the Right-of-Way.

Prohibitions, Exemptions & Permits

- **Prohibitions** (Not authorized without a Permit)
 - Tree Removal
 - Tree Relocation
 - Initiate Development When a Protected Tree Exists on a Property
 - Cause Irreparable Injury to a Tree
- **Exemptions**
 - Emergencies (waived by Mayor, City Council, City Manager)
 - Agricultural Land, Tree Farms, Nurseries
 - Public Utilities & Telecommunication Towers
 - Solar Access
 - FS 163.045 (Proposed Bill favoring removal from private residential lots)
- **Permits**
 - Application and Fee
 - Tree Protection and Replacement Plan

Trees



Protected Trees

- Any tree over 4 - inch DBH, unless invasive
- Sabal Palms with a minimum 6-foot Clear Trunk
- Sarasota County Protected Trees



Heritage Tree

- Native, Single Trunk 30 – inch DBH or greater.
- Multi-Trunk Tree 45- inch DBH or greater
- *Sarasota County Grand Tree is any tree that meets the size criteria based on diameter+height (average spread). They are replaced on an inch per inch basis or \$200.00/ dbh into the tree fund.*



Venetian Trees

- Specific Native & Non- Native trees designated by the City of Venice City Council as having a historic or cultural significance.

Tree Preservation

Incentives Replacement

1. Retain native trees 24-inch DBH greater, receive two times DBH incentive
 2. Retain clusters of six or more protected trees, receive 1.5 times DBH incentive
 3. Retain native clusters of six protected trees with native understory, receive 1 inch per 1000 SF
 4. Larger Tree Caliper Inches Provided (6-inch greater)
- Required Best Management Practices for Pruning

The Intent is to maintain existing tree canopy in City of Venice and incentivize retention of existing trees/ addition of larger trees

Tree Replacement

- Project Area Density of Forty (40) tree inches per acre is required for mitigation. (Includes all properties except for industrial use or exempted)
 - Example: 1 Acre x 40 Inches = A minimum of 16 – 2.5” Caliper Trees Required or combination of a total of 40 inches planted on site.
- Heritage and Venetian Trees will be replaced at on a DBH inch for DBH inch basis (ex: if a 12 DBH inch tree is removed then 12 Caliper inches need to be added to the site)
- Required Best Management Practices for Replacement Planting
- Inclusion of Florida Friendly Landscaping Master Tree Species List

Current Sarasota Code Requires a tree permit:

- Minimum of one tree required for each 2000 sf
 - Minimum of 8 feet in height and trunk diameter (caliper) of at least two inches
 - Example: 1 Acre / 2000 SF = A minimum of 22 – 2” Individual Caliper Trees Required (Note that this is an equivalent of a minimum of 44 inches/ acre of replacement)
- Grand trees will be replaced on an DBH inch for DBH inch basis.

“Tree Mitigation Fund”

What is the Tree Mitigation Fund?

- A fund for the planting, protection and maintenance of trees on public property within the City of Venice.

Following Project Types

- Conservation or Natural Preserve Area and Protection
- Qualified Attainable Housing Projects
- Urban Forest Assessments
- Mitigation of Negative Environmental Impacts

More flexible and stringent than County Tree Bank Program

Enforcement

- Enforced Via Code of Ordinances
 - Chapter 2: City Code Enforcement
- Fees are comparable to current Sarasota County Fees
- After the Fact Permit Required for any Illegal Removal (Language that will be addressed)
 - Tree Removal (Illegally) and Replacement
 - (2x permit fee plus original mitigation)
- Optional Payment To Tree Mitigation Fund
 - \$150 per tree inch removed; \$175 per tree inch removed (Heritage/Venetian)

Next Steps

- Future Consideration:
 - “Move” Chapter 118 (Trees) to Chapter 89 (New Code – Tree Preservation, Protection, & Replacement)
 - Landscape and Buffering Standards (separate; within Land Development Regulations Update)