

- Whether the applicant's proposed replanting of new trees or vegetation is an adequate substitute for the trees to be felled;
- Whether slash left on the property poses significant fire hazard or liability to the City;
- Whether the felling is consistent with the guidelines specified in the Field Guide to Oregon Forestry Practices Rules published by the State of Oregon, Department of Forestry, as they apply to the northwest Oregon region;
- Whether transportation of equipment to and equipment and trees from the site can be accomplished without a major disturbance to nearby residents.

NOTE: In the event that no development plan has been approved by the City, felling of trees will be permitted on a limited basis consistent with the preservation of the site's future development potential as prescribed in the Metro Plan and City development regulations and consistent with the following criteria:

- Wooded areas associated with natural drainage ways and water areas shall be retained to preserve riparian habitat and minimize erosion;
- Wooded areas that will likely provide

attractive on-site views to occupants of future developments shall be retained;

- Wooded areas along ridge lines and hilltops shall be retained for their scenic and wildlife value;
- Wooded areas along property lines shall be retained to serve as buffers from adjacent properties;
- Trees shall be retained in sufficiently large areas and dense stands so as to ensure against wind throw; and
- Large-scale clear-cuts of developable area shall be avoided to retain the wooded character of future building site and preserve housing and design options for future City residents.



### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Make sure you comply with any covenants, conditions, and restrictions applicable to your property.



### REFERENCES

Springfield Development Code 5.19-100

# Tree Felling Permit Information





## WHY ARE TREE FELLING PERMITS NEEDED?

The tree felling permit process helps protect the social, community, environmental, and economic benefits of trees. For example, trees help improve air quality and reduce stormwater run-off and the possibility of flooding. They also increase property value and lower energy costs. When trees are removed, nearby trees are more vulnerable to wind, which in turn may increase the likelihood of property damage. In addition, when trees are not removed selectively, erosion problems may result that could threaten surrounding structures. Therefore, the tree felling permit process ensures that the benefits of trees are maintained while allowing you to alter your property as needed.



## TREE FELLING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED WHEN:

- Removing 5 or more trees;
- On Lots\* 10,000 square feet or larger; where
- Trees are defined as 5" or more in diameter at breast height (dbh).

\*or abutting lots with common ownership



## TREE FELLING PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit a complete application packet to the Development Services Department (DSD) to include the following. Application packets are available from DSD and include more detailed information on the submittal requirements.

- Application Fee
- Tree Felling Permit Application Form
- Deed and Preliminary Title Report
- Plot Plan to Include:
  - Location, size, and species or common name of trees
  - Hauling route and tree removal method
  - Description of plan to replace, landscape, or reduce the effect of the felling
- Plot Plan reduced to 8½" X 11"
- Narrative, including findings demonstrating compliance with the approval criteria in SDC 5.19-125

### NOTE:

The applicant may be required to contract with a professional forester, licensed hydrologist, or licensed landscape architect for undeveloped property ≥ 10 acres, 15% slope, or 670 feet of elevation.



## TREE FELLING PERMIT APPROVAL CRITERIA

- Whether the conditions of the trees with respect to disease, hazardous or unsafe conditions, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures, or interference with utility services or pedestrian or vehicular traffic safety warrants the proposed felling;
- Whether the proposed felling is consistent with State standards, Metro Plan policies, and City Ordinances and provisions affecting the environmental quality of the area, including but not limited to, the protection of nearby trees and windbreaks, wildlife, erosion, soil retention and stability, volume of surface run-off and water quality of streams, scenic quality, and geological sites;
- Whether it is necessary to remove trees in order to construct proposed improvements as specified in an approved development plan, grading permits, and construction drawings;