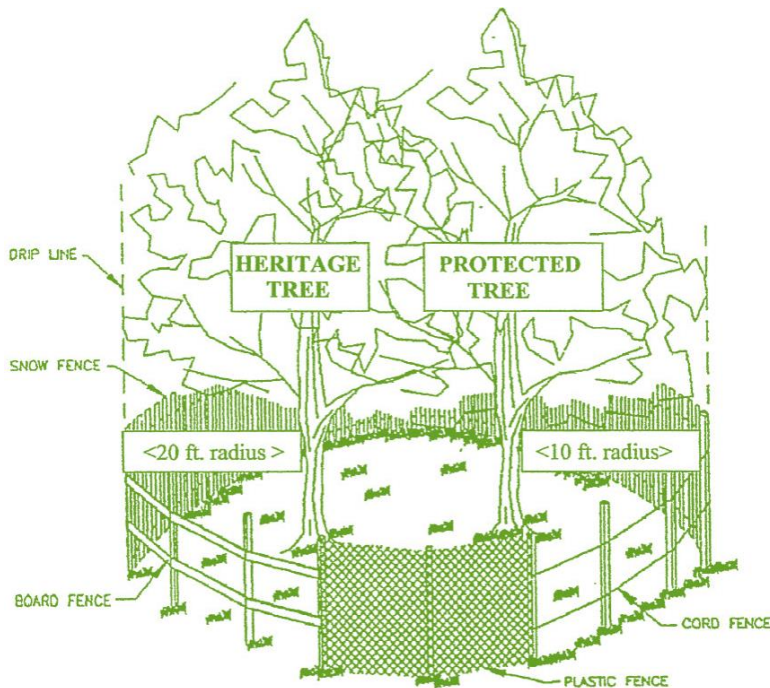


PROTECTIVE TREE BARRICADES REQUIRED ON CONSTRUCTION SITES

Article 16 of the City of Orange Beach Zoning Ordinance establishes protective regulations for heritage and protected trees. The City of Orange Beach conducts unscheduled inspections of construction sites to verify that the required tree protection barricades are installed and properly maintained. Failure to comply with the Tree Ordinance may result in citations, fines, and/or court appearances for each offense.

Attached is information relating to tree barricades as well as other pertinent information from Article 16. Please keep this information for your use on this project and any further projects that you are involved in. You may also contact the City of Orange Beach Community Development Department at 251.981.2610 for additional information.



Heritage Trees: Root protection zone must have a radius of twenty (20) feet from the tree trunk to the edge of the barricade. Be aware that in some cases the Site Plan Review has allowed root pruning at a closer distance than the required twenty (20) feet. **Always check the approved site plan for specific information.** Root pruning or elevated slabs will always be shown on the plan.

Protected Trees: Root protection zone must have a radius of ten (10) feet from the tree trunk to the edge of the barricade. Otherwise, the protection requirements are the same as for Heritage trees.

Barricades must be three (3) feet in height and may be constructed of any substantial material that will provide protection from construction activity. Supports shall be spaced from four (4) feet to six (6) feet apart.



City of Orange Beach Zoning Ordinance

ARTICLE 16. TREE PROTECTION & LANDSCAPING

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

16.08 TREE REMOVAL AND SITE CLEARING PERMIT

No person shall cut, remove, or in any way damage any protected or heritage tree on private property or the road right-of-way without first obtaining a permit from the Community Development Department unless exempted per Section 16.02 of the Zoning Ordinance. A tree survey must be submitted showing all protected trees species, locations and sizes.

Tree barricades and root pruning are required at the perimeter of construction, outside the protective radius, per section 16.07 of the Zoning Ordinance, to prevent damage to existing trees and other vegetation during construction.

16.07 PROTECTED TREES AND TREES TO BE PRESERVED

A. Protected Trees

Redbuds and dogwoods with a diameter at breast height (DBH) equal to or greater than four (4) inches, long leaf pine trees equal to or greater than eighteen (18) inches DBH and all other trees with a DBH equal to or greater than six (6) inches are protected trees with the exception of the following:

- Chinese Tallow (Popcorn Tree) - *Sapium Sebiferum*
- Chinaberry - *Melia Azedarach*
- Tree of Heaven (Chinese Sumac) - *Ailanthus Altissima*
- Silk Tree (Mimosa) - *Albizia Julibrissin*
- Paper Mulberry - *Broussonetia Papyrifera*
- All pine trees other than the Long Leaf Pine
- Other recognized nuisance and/or invasive species

B. Heritage Trees

A healthy, protected tree with a diameter at breast height equal to or greater than thirty (30) inch or seven (7) feet and ten (10) inch circumference, whichever dimension is less, shall be classified as a heritage tree. A heritage tree may be removed only if it is within the footprint of a proposed building structure and the developer has demonstrated that all reasonable efforts have been made to attempt to retain the tree on the site.



E. Tree Protective Radius and Barricades

Development on parcels shall comply with the following tree protection requirements:

1. Protective barricades shall be placed around all protected trees and heritage trees during site clearing to create a protective radius and shall remain in place until land alteration, site clearing and construction activities are complete. Barricades for the protective radius shall be erected a minimum distance of ten (10) feet from the edge of trunk of protected trees and twenty (20) feet from the edge of trunk of heritage trees.
2. A minimum distance of ten (10) feet from all protected trees and twenty (20) feet from all heritage trees shall be maintained when installing underground utilities. If this results in unreasonable hardship, a soil auger shall be used to tunnel under the root systems.
3. Installation of artificial barriers such as protective barricades, fences, posts or walls shall not destroy or irreversibly harm the root system of protected trees and heritage trees. Footers for walls shall end at the point where larger roots are encountered, and the roots shall be bridged. Post holes and trenches located close to protected trees or heritage trees shall be adjusted to avoid damage to major roots.
4. All roots to be removed during site clearing and/or construction shall be severed clean at the perimeter of the designated protective radius.
5. A protective dry well and drainage/aeration system shall be provided where protected trees or heritage trees will be adversely affected by raising the grade.
6. A protective retaining wall shall be constructed at or beyond the perimeter of the protective radius around a protected tree or heritage tree where the protected tree or heritage tree will be adversely affected by lowering the grade.
7. Paving base placement within the outside five (5) feet of the required protective radius may be approved by the Planning Commission, provided an effective pervious radius of ten (10) feet for protected trees and twenty (20) feet for heritage trees is created through the use of grass pavers, pavement aeration devices or similar products. These pervious material products must be placed on grade to minimize the negative impact of fill on the root system.
8. Structural foundations may be located at a radius of five (5) feet from the trunk of a protected tree, provided an effective pervious area radius is extended proportionally in three other directions to allow a minimum of four hundred (400) square feet of pervious area.

