



# Department of Economic Growth

## Tree Removal Permit Exemption

Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Address (Mailing) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant/Agent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Property Address \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Key No. \_\_\_\_\_

**9.02.04 Exemptions to Tree Removal Permit Requirements.** The following protected trees and palms may be removed without a tree removal permit and required mitigation:

- A. Trees that are not required for any landscape requirement, provided such removal does not to exceed a combined cumulative caliper of thirty (30) inches of Protected Trees within any one (1) three-year period;
- B. Trees located within new or existing recorded or prescriptive public road or drainage rights-of-way and easements that are to be removed as part of a Board of County Commissioners approved project. However, all protected trees removed under this exemption Shall be avoided or relocated whenever feasible.
- C. Any tree determined to be in a hazardous or dangerous condition so as to endanger the public health, safety or welfare and requires immediate removal. Authorization may be given by the County Manager or designee pursuant to the following procedures:
  - 1. Photo documentation of the hazardous tree(s) by property owner is required prior to removal and Shall be submitted to the County Manager or designee.
  - 2. If the tree, due to immediate danger, is removed prior to obtaining written authorization, a letter and photo documentation demonstrating the immediate danger Shall be submitted to the County Manager or designee within fifteen (15) days of the removal.
  - 3. The subsection expressly includes Heritage and Specimen Trees when such trees endanger property or the public health, safety or welfare.
- D. Agriculture and Silviculture. Bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural pursuant to Section 193.461, Florida Statutes, as amended.
  - 1. Silviculture operations on property zoned Agriculture, or legally existing nonconforming agricultural uses, that have completed a Forestry Management Plan and would qualify for classification as agricultural pursuant to Section 193.461, Florida Statutes, as amended.
  - 2. Silviculture activities regulated through best management practices, interim measures, or regulations developed through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or water management district.
  - 3. The activity is expressly regulated and permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- E. Trees that have died through natural causes or diseased trees Shall not require replacement or relocation. Trees killed or toppled by Acts of God such as lightning, hurricanes and tornadoes Shall not be required to be replaced or mitigated unless the tree(s) are required as part of a Development Order issued by Lake County.

**Please be advised that if you remove any trees without a tree removal permit that DO NOT meet the criteria of Section 9.02.04, it could become a Code Enforcement issue.**

**To be completed by staff only**

Address # \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Property \_\_\_\_\_ Required No. of Canopy Trees \_\_\_\_\_

Applicable Exemption Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Name and Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_