

TREE PROTECTION PLAN FOR WOODED LOTS IN RIDGEVIEW

While we do not require that homeowners hire an arborist to develop their tree protection plan, the HOA strongly recommends that owners do so. Lot grading, construction and removal of adjacent trees are primary causes of permanently damaged/dying/dead trees in residential neighborhoods. A certified arborist can also assess the viability of preserved trees since removal of any that are not viable is far less expensive during grading vs. after construction is completed.

1. A root protection zone (RPZ) must be established around all the trees to be preserved. This should be considered a no disturbance zone.
2. No work can begin until tree protection fencing (minimum 4 feet high) has been installed for the RPZ, installed at the recommended distance around the specific tree to be preserved. Tree protection fencing must be maintained and repaired by the contractor during construction.
3. Any linear excavation for utility lines, foundations, roads, and sidewalks is considered trenching. No trenching should be allowed to damage the structural root plate of the trees.
4. All roots larger than one-inch in diameter must be cut cleanly and wounds painted within 30 minutes.
5. Exposed roots must be covered at the end of the work day using techniques such as covering with soil, mulch or wet burlap.
6. No equipment, vehicles or materials is allowed to be operated or stored within the RPZ. No clean-out areas should be constructed so that the material will be in or migrate to the RPZ.
7. Tree branches in conflict with construction must be cut cleanly according to proper, professional pruning methods.
8. Trees which are damaged or lost due to the contractor's negligence during construction must be mitigated.
9. No wires, nails or other materials may be attached to any trees.

Web Resources

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/trees-shrubs/protecting-trees-from-construction-damage

www.ci.medford.or.us/Files/TreeProtection11_07.pdf

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Trees/Tree+Protection+Zone+Calculator

<http://studio425.blogspot.com/2011/11/rpas-planning-and-building-near-trees.html>