

**ARTICLE 16 TREE PROTECTION AND LANDSCAPING QUICK REFERENCE
CITY OF ORANGE BEACH ZONING CODE**

Section 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 tree 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 code, to prevent damage to existing trees and other vegetation during construction.

Section 16.07 PROTECTED TREES AND TREES TO BE PRESERVED

- A. Protected trees in Orange Beach are:
- 1) all hardwood trees with a diameter at breast height (dbh) of six (6) inches or greater and
 - 2) all longleaf pine trees with a dbh of eighteen (18) inches or greater.

Exceptions are:

- Chinese Tallow
- Chinaberry
- Tree of Heaven (Chinese Sumac)
- Silk Tree (Mimosa)
- Paper Mulberry
- All pine trees other than >18 inch dbh Long Leaf Pine

- B. A **healthy**, protected tree with a dbh equal to or greater than thirty (30) inches or 7' 10" circumference, whichever dimension is less, shall be classified as a heritage tree.

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- E. Tree Protective Radius and Barricades
Developments 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 10 ft. from the edge of trunk of protected trees and 20 ft. from the edge of heritage trees.

- 2) A minimum distance of 10ft. from all protected trees and 20 ft. 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 protected 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 5 ft. of the protective radius may be approved by the Planning Commission, provided an effective pervious radius of 10' for protected trees and 20' 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 5' 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 400 square feet of pervious area.