



Tree Mitigation

What is tree mitigation?

Tree mitigation is the replacement of trees that cannot be preserved due to construction or development of land. Tree mitigation can be provided by:

1. Replanting additional trees
2. Pay a fee in lieu of replanting new trees (or a combination of both)

Why does the city require trees to be mitigated?

- To protect the natural, ecological, environmental, and aesthetic qualities of the city.
- To protect and increase the value of all properties within the city.
- To minimize extreme clear-cutting practices or unnecessary tree removal.
- To maintain a positive image for the city to attract new businesses and residents.

Why do I need to get a permit to clear land or cut trees?

The Unified Development Code (UDC) Section 4.2.3.3 states that no person shall cut down, remove, or destroy any tree located within the city limits without first submitting a Tree Survey and obtaining approval.

What documentation do I need to get a permit to clear land or cut trees?

- A Tree Disposition or plan that shows how protected trees and critical root zones will be protected from development and pre-development activity. The Tree Disposition plan indicates which trees will be protected, removed, relocated, or replaced.
- A Tree Survey or an on the ground survey with the location of the Protected Trees, diameters, species, and critical root zones.
- A [Clear and Grub](#) application

How much are the replacement fees?

Tree mitigation fees are paid into the Tree Trust Fund. It is calculated at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per caliper inch of the tree(s) to be mitigated, as listed below. Reductions in the fee can be accommodated through credits discussed in Section 4.2.3.7 (e) – Tree Credits.

- Trees 12"-24" (37.68"-75.36" in circumference) shall be replaced at 200% of inches removed.
- Trees 24"-36" (75.36"-113.04" in circumference) shall be replaced at 300% of inches removed.
- Trees greater than 36" (113.04" in circumference) shall be replaced at 400% of inches removed.

What are the Tree Trust Fees used for?

The Tree Trust Funds are used to purchase, grow, and maintain trees, and/or plants within the city limits. This fund is used to beautify City trails, parks, and the Right of Way. These fees also serve to manage and remove overgrown vegetation in the Old Town Right of Way. Funds also support tree giveaways, education materials, disease control and the City's GeoTour. The Tree Trust Fund is overseen by a Tree Propagation Plan that is managed by the City's Urban Forester.





Who can apply for the permit?

A registered general contractor is required to apply for the [Clear and Grub](#) application permit. This is to ensure that the contractor performing the work meets the City of Pearland requirements for liability insurance coverage. The ACCORD form should have the City of Pearland listed as the certificate holder.

Homestead property owners can also apply for permits to perform the work themselves, and act as the general contractor for the project. Proof of homestead will be required before your permit is issued.

Registered contractors or homesteaded property owners can use the following link to apply: [Community Development \(pearland.tx.us\)](http://pearland.tx.us)

What trees are protected within the city?

Protected Tree List

<u>Genus</u>	<u>species</u>	<u>Common name</u>
<u>Quercus</u>	<u>spp.</u>	<u>Oaks</u>
<u>Ulmus</u>	<u>spp.</u>	<u>Elms</u>
<u>Taxodium</u>	<u>spp.</u>	<u>Baldcypress</u>
<u>Carya</u>	<u>spp.</u>	<u>Pecan, Hickory</u>
<u>Magnolia grandiflora</u>		<u>Southern Magnolia</u>
<u>Magnolia virginiana</u>		<u>Sweetbay</u>
<u>Juglans nigra</u>		<u>Black Walnut</u>
<u>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</u>		<u>Green Ash</u>
<u>Fraxinus americana</u>		<u>White Ash</u>
<u>Ilex opaca</u>		<u>American Holly</u>
<u>Platanus occidentalis</u>		<u>American Sycamore</u>
<u>Acer rubrum</u>		<u>Red Maple</u>
<u>Acer barbatum</u>		<u>Florida Maple</u>

If an existing tree of the protected tree list in excess of 12" DBH is removed, thus requiring mitigation, and the disposition plan calls for replacement, it must be replaced by a tree from the protected tree list.

Pine Trees will receive preservation credit as outlined in Section 4.2.3.7(e).

For trees to be planted to fulfill landscape requirements, the following trees are allowed, in addition to the trees found in the Protected Tree List above:

Who can I contact to discuss tree mitigation?

The Urban Forester, Jerry Bradshaw, is available to answer questions about your trees, shrubs, or flowers. Please send your pictures or questions at JBradshaw@pearlandtx.gov.

