

3. A protected tree shall be considered to be preserved only if a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the critical root zone is maintained at undisturbed natural grade and no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the canopy is removed due to building encroachment.
4. The following procedures shall be followed on all types on construction projects (i.e. residential subdivisions, commercial, multi-family, industrial developments, residential builders and municipal/public).
  - a. Tree Flagging or Marking: Trees that are shown on an approved plan by the City for preservation/protection shall be flagged with bright fluorescent orange vinyl tape or ribbon wrapped around the main trunk at a height of four and one-half feet (4.5') or more such that it is very visible to workers operating construction equipment. Trees that are marked for preservation/protection shall have protective fencing in accordance with the requirements of this Code.
  - b. Protective Fencing: In those situations where a protected tree is so close to the construction area that construction equipment might infringe on the root system or is within twenty feet (20') of the construction area, a protective fencing shall be required between the outer limits of the critical root zone of the tree and the construction activity area. Four feet (4') high protective fencing shall be supported at a maximum of ten feet (10') intervals by approved methods. All protective fencing shall be in place prior to commencement of any major site work involving heavy equipment for construction of utilities and roadways and shall remain in place until all site work has been completed. This provision does not apply to clearing the right-of-way for the purpose of access to the site for site preparation.
  - c. Protective fencing shall not be required for clearing the rights-of-way for the purpose of access to the site. Once the site is accessible by heavy equipment, protective fencing shall be placed in accordance with this Code.

**L. Tree Pruning Restrictions**

No protected tree shall be pruned in a manner that significantly disfigures the tree or in a manner that would reasonably lead to the death of the tree.

1. Allowed Pruning: Protected trees may be strategically pruned to allow construction or demolition of a structure. All pruning shall take place in accordance with approved Arboricultural techniques and the recommendations of [Exhibit G](#). Reasonable pruning of trees also may be performed or contracted to be performed by the owner of the tree when unrelated to construction activity.
2. Required Pruning: The owners of all Large trees (as defined in Section 8.20) adjacent to a public right-of-way shall be required to maintain a minimum clearance of ~~thirteen and one-half feet (13.5')~~ fifteen feet (15') above the traveled pavement or curb of a public street. Said owners shall also remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs that constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The City shall also have the right to prune trees overhanging within a public right-of-way that interfere with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interfere with visibility of any traffic control device or sign or as necessary to preserve the public safety.
3. Tree Topping: It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or City department to top any street tree, park tree or other tree on public property. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this Code at the determination of the City.