

## Importance of Tree Permitting

- As outlined in Alachua County Unified Land Development Code (ULDC), Alachua County's purpose for protecting natural and historic resources is to preserve, protect, and enhance the quality and quantity of trees while balancing the needs for development and improvement of properties.
- Trees and native vegetation promote carbon dioxide absorption, oxygen production, wildlife habitat, energy conservation, scenic beauty, and quality of life.
- Champion trees, heritage trees, and native trees add significant value to the natural system. Thus, it is imperative to uphold the codes to balance urban needs and nature.
- Tree removal in all land uses and zoning districts shall be prohibited without prior approval.



**For more information, contact the  
Alachua County Forester at:  
(352)338-7394  
[treepermit@alachuacounty.us](mailto:treepermit@alachuacounty.us)**

**Growth Management  
County Annex Building  
10 SW 2nd Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601  
(352)374-5249**



# Alachua County Tree Permitting

**Alachua County  
Growth Management**

**10 SW 2nd Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32601  
(352)374-5249**



## Do I need a permit to remove trees?

### Regulated trees:

- Champion trees are trees that are recognized as the largest of their species in the region.
- Heritage trees are native trees over 20" in diameter or 30" in diameter for laurel oak and water oak.
- Woody tree species 8" in diameter or above.
- Specimen trees are identified by the County to be of notable interest or high value because of their age, size, species, condition, historic habitat, and/or uniqueness (ULDC Table 406.16.1).

**Tree removal that falls under the specifications in the following table will need a permit.**

Land Classification	Tree(s) requiring a permit
Single Family Residential 1 acre or less	Trees over 20" in diameter* or ~63" in circumference  Nonnative trees, laurel oaks, and water oaks over 30" in diameter* or ~95.25" in circumference  Specimen trees
Single Family Residential more than 1 acre Commercial Institutional Multifamily (apartments) Homeowner's Association	All trees over 8" in diameter* or ~25" in circumference  Specimen trees

\*The diameter must be measured at 4.5' above ground level.

## Call before you clear!

For questions about tree permitting, please contact the Alachua County Forester at [treep permit@alachuacounty.us](mailto:treep permit@alachuacounty.us) or call (352)338-7394.

## How do I apply for a permit?

Tree permit applications can be processed and tracked online at

<https://citizenserve.com/alachuacounty>

The fee to apply for a permit is \$90.00. Multiple trees can be listed on the same permit.

## Do I have to replant trees?

Mitigation for trees removed is determined on a tree by tree basis based on the size and quality of the tree removed.

When regulated trees are removed or damaged without a permit, they shall be replaced at up to double the rate identified in ULDC Section 406.13.

