Why is it important to properly barricade your trees designated for preservation? Because there is an area known as the dripline or root zone, that when impacted can be devastating to trees and plants.

- A tree or plant’s roots can extend out from the trunk a great distance. Some of the major roots that the tree cannot afford to have compromised are located within an area called the dripline. It is best to put barricades up around the tree at the dripline, and even better to extend them out past the dripline.

- When disturbed by heavy equipment compacting soil, a tree or plant’s roots are subject to breaking and tearing which basically stops the flow of water and nutrients to the tree.

- Changes in ground elevation which occur within this area may also kill the tree or plant; especially our native slash pines. Adding fill on top of roots interferes with soil permeability which alters essential gas exchanges and subsurface drainage.

- Keep in mind, the damage may be seen immediately, or the tree may take several months to die.