



TECHNIQUES FOR PRESERVING NATIVE VEGETATION PRIOR TO SITE DEVELOPMENT

❖ **Native trees typically found in Palm Beach County include:**

Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
Dahoon Holly (*Ilex cassine*)
Strangler Fig (*Ficus aurea*)
Gumbo Limbo (*Bursea simaruba*)
Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)
Sweet Bay (*Magnolia virginiana*)

Laurel Oak (*Quercus larifolia*)
Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)
Red Maple (*Acer rubra*)
Sand Pine (*Pinus clausa*)
Slash Pine (*Pinus elliotti*)

- ❖ While these trees are not the only native trees found in Palm Beach County, they occur at a higher frequency. The mitigation required for the removal of these trees may alter your proposed site plan.
- ❖ Applicants should review the existing on site vegetation, particularly the amount and species of native trees, in order to avoid planning and landscape problems during the development process.
- ❖ In order to prohibit the unnecessary destruction of native vegetation and facilitate the removal or eradication of invasive non-native vegetation the following methodology is recommended:
1. Assess the current parcel vegetation, identifying areas of invasive non-native vegetation as favorable development areas and areas of native vegetation as areas for preservation. If the parcel is uniform in native tree placement, look for an area of least impact as a suitable development area.
 2. Situating development in the most favorable area, create a tabular tree list of native vegetation that will be impacted by development. Utilize semi-permanent tags or brightly colored survey flagging tape to identify each tree with a unique number in either stencil or permanent marker.
 3. A tabular tree list should include the tree's unique number, the species of the tree marked, the size of the tree in diameter at breast height (dbh), the fate of the tree (remain, relocate, remove, etc.), and the potential mitigation requirement.
 4. A tree survey may be required on complex projects, such as intensive commercial parcel developments, to establish preservation feasibility.
 5. Identify areas of understory, species of concern and trees of 3 inches dbh or greater.
 6. Evaluate the number of relocatable trees in the area of development. Indicate the area to which these trees can be moved. If you are voluntarily participating in the Palm Beach County Surplus Vegetation Program for trees which cannot be accommodated on site, be sure to submit the Vegetation Surplus Form as soon as possible to facilitate in the successful relocation of your trees.
 7. For non-relocatable native trees that must be removed for development, mitigation is required. Each native tree greater than 6 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) must be mitigated for as indicated in 7.D.2.D-4 Tree Credit and Replacement Table. Each replacement tree must be a minimum of 12 feet in height and 2.5 inches dbh and Florida Number One Quality or better.