

## **Sec. 30-23. Definitions (abbreviated list).**

*Bona fide agriculture and/or silviculture* means the good faith commercial agricultural and/or silvicultural use of the land determined by utilizing the factors outlined in F.S. § 193.461.

*Building setback line* means a line, established at the minimum setback line as set forth by the applicable zoning district, within a lot or other parcel of land so designated on the plat.

*Champion tree* means those trees that are the largest of their species as listed in the Florida Champion Tree Register maintained by the State of Florida Division of Forestry.

*City tree mitigation fund* means a separate city fund that holds funds collected as tree mitigation. This fund may be used for new tree plantings associated with public improvement projects or for the preservation of trees through the purchase of conservation lands, but shall not be used for tree maintenance or for the installation of new trees that are required for a development.

*Clearing or grubbing* means any grading of land, cutting of trees, or removal or relocation of existing vegetation or other existing site features for the purpose of installing or laying out site improvements. The term does not include sight trails necessary for the surveying of the subject parcel.

*Council of tree and landscape appraisers* means to a group of professional societies specializing in arboriculture, horticulture and nursery practices that have established a methodology for appraising the financial value of trees and landscaping.

*Crown* means the foliated portion of a tree, from the lowest branch to the treetop; synonymous with canopy.

*Crown spread* means the measurement of the outermost tips of a tree's branches as they form a circle. It is calculated by averaging the diameters of two circles - the distance across the narrowest point and at the widest point.

*Diameter breast height (DBH)* means the diameter of the main stem of a tree as measured 4.5 feet above the natural grade at the base. The diameter of a multi-stemmed tree is measured at the narrowest point below the lowest branch.

*Dripline* means the minimum rooting volume of a tree necessary to sustain the tree's life, generally defined by the tree's crown spread or a radius of every 1.25 feet for every one inch DBH, whichever is greater, and from the surface to a depth of three feet.

*Fair or better condition* means that the tree has a relatively sound and solid root, trunk, and canopy structure, no major insect infestation or pathological problem, or problems that cannot be remedied with cultural practices, and a life expectancy greater than 15 years as determined by the city manager or designee. In the event of a disputed health condition, the condition rating system outlined in the latest edition of the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide for Tree Appraisers shall be used by the city manager or designee to evaluate the health condition. A score of 60 or higher shall qualify a tree as fair or better condition.

*Gainesville tree list* refers to the list in section 30-267 of this Code.

*Heritage trees* are trees that are larger than 20 inches diameter breast height; except for Water Oaks (quercus nigra), Laurel Oaks (Quercus hemispherica), Sweetgums (Liquidambar styraciflua), Loblolly Pine (Pinus

taeda) and Slash Pine (*Pinus elliottii*) which become heritage trees only when they are larger than 30 inches diameter breast height.

*High quality trees* are any trees of the following species: Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Sand Live Oak (*O. geminata*), Bluff Oak (*Q. austrina*), Basket Oak (*Q. michauxii*), Southern Red Oak (*Q. falcata*), Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), Florida Maple (*Acer barbatum*), Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*), Spruce Pine (*P. glabra*), Cedar Elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Winged Elm (*U. alata*), Florida Elm (*U. floridana*), Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Pond Cypress (*T. ascendens*), Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), Mockernut Hickory (*Carya tomentosa*), Pignut Hickory (*C. glabra*), Pecan (*C. illinoensis*), Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), Basswood (*Tilia Americana*), Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), White Ash (*Fraxinus Americana*), Green Ash (*F. pensylvanica*) and Yaupon, Dahoon, and American Holly species (*Ilex vomitoria*, *I. cassine*, and *I. opaca*). *High quality heritage trees* are heritage trees of the species identified in the definition of high quality trees.

*High quality shade trees* are trees of the native species listed in the definition of high quality trees that are identified on the Gainesville tree list in the category "high quality shade."

*Regulated trees* are those of eight inches or greater in diameter breast height or any tree that was planted or preserved in compliance with an approved development order or to mitigate the removal of a regulated tree. Slash and Loblolly Pines are not regulated until they reach 20 inches in diameter.

*Required trees* mean those planted to meet a specific landscaping requirement such as trees in buffers, landscape islands, and stormwater management areas.

*Root zone* refers to the allotted area of soil that is provided for the growth of tree roots.

*Root zone media* refers to the appropriate soil structure and texture to accommodate healthy root growth for required landscaping. The minimum components of rootzone media are uncompacted soil (bulk density less than 1.50 g/cc in loam, 1.70 g/cc sand, or 1.40 g/cc clay soil) devoid of seeds of invasive exotic species and of pH 5.5 to 6.5, composted leaf mold or peat moss, and well-graded, medium angular sand (0.50 to 0.25 mm). The natural topsoil of the site qualifies if the above qualities exist. The maximum depth for structural soil used as root zone media shall be 36 inches, the maximum depth for root zone media used with structural root box cells shall be 45 inches.

*Root zone volume* refers to a measurement of the net soil volume not including structural components such as stone. The root zone can include soil within the tree opening or soil under pavement, as long as the soil volumes are compacted to no more than 85 percent dry density. Structural soils are exempt from this compaction requirement. A variety of techniques are suitable for under pavement locations, including but not limited to structural root box cells, structural soil, tree wells, root paths and soil trenches. The soil volumes must be accessible to the tree roots to be considered part of the root zone volume. Rooting space should be composed of soil defined in the ordinance as root zone media. The depth of root zone, for purposes of calculating the volume, shall not exceed four feet.

*Setback* or *setback line* means a line determined by measurement, parallel to a lot line, creating an area between the lot line and the setback line in which all structures (unless otherwise limited) may not be erected.

*Silviculture* means a process, following best management practices and/or accepted forest management principles, whereby the trees constituting forests are tended, harvested, and reproduced.

*Soil bulk density* is a measure of soil compaction expressed as the mass of soil per unit of volume.

*Soil compaction* is compression of the soil resulting in a reduction of the total pore space, especially the macropores (air-filled spaces between soil particles) and micropores (which fill with water).

*Tree* means any living self-supporting perennial plant whose one main stem attains at least a diameter of three inches (nine inches in circumference) at 4½ feet above ground level and a height of 15 feet at maturity.

*Tree appraised value* means the dollar value to the city of a tree on private or public property used for the purpose of calculating cash recompense for removal or destruction. The tree appraised value shall be calculated as follows:

$$(3.14) \times (\frac{1}{2} \text{ diameter breast height})^2 = \text{trunk area}$$

(trunk area) × (unit factor for square inch price, as determined annually by the tree advisory board in consultation with the city manager or designee) = square inch value

(square inch value) × (55% diminution rating) = tree appraised value

Example calculation: 20" Live Oak in fair or better condition:  $(3.14) \times (\frac{1}{2} \times 20)^2 = 314$  square inches of trunk area

$(314 \text{ sq in}) \times (\$40) = \$12,560$  square inch value

$(\$12,560) \times (.55) = \$6,908$  tree appraised value

*Tree root plate or root plate* refers to the below-ground area adjacent to the trunk where the major buttress roots and support roots occur, generally a circular area with a radius of four times the diameter of the tree trunk at ground level. For example, a tree with two-foot diameter breast height has a root plate radius of eight feet outside the trunk on all sides.

*Tree survey* is a map that depicts the geographic location of regulated trees with their scientific names (both genus and species) and indicates the diameter of each regulated tree measured at 4.5 feet above the natural grade at the base.

*Tree survey, qualitative* is an alternative to the tree survey. A qualitative tree survey shall be prepared by and executed by a certified arborist with current credentials from the International Society of Arboriculture or by a licensed landscape architect. The report must show the surveyed location, diameter, genus and species of all Heritage trees, all regulated trees of high quality shade tree species, other trees worthy of protection, and existing trees planted to comply with earlier approved development plans. On-site meetings with the city manager or designee will confirm which trees shall be included in the survey and to confirm that the survey meets code requirements. The survey shall also cover matters identified as significant relative to the urban forest based on site conditions.

*Tree wells* consist of an complete or partial enclosure below ground, filled with rootzone media, where a tree is planted. Apertures at the surface are provided to conduit air and water to the tree roots.

*Understory trees* means trees which average less than 40 feet in height at maturity, whether or not the tree is found in an understory habitat.

*Urban forest* refers to the sum total of all vegetation growing within the city limits, whether on public or private property.