

DATE SUBMITTED: _____
FEE: _____

PERMIT NO: _____



**ST. LUCIE COUNTY
NOTICE OF VEGETATION REMOVAL
APPLICATION**

Please complete the requested information and submit to the St. Lucie County Building & Zoning Department. For additional information, please contact the St. Lucie County Environmental Resources Department at (772) 462-2526. *Filing this application does not result in an authorization to commence any vegetation removal or alteration.*

Incomplete applications will not be accepted in accordance with section 11.05.06 (c) of the St. Lucie County Land Development Code. Within twenty (20) days after an application has been determined to be complete, the Environmental Resources Director, or designee, shall review the application and approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application, based on the standards set forth in Section 6.00.05 of this Code.

PROJECT INFORMATION

OWNERS NAME: _____
OWNERS ADDRESS _____
PROJECT LOCATION/ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
CONTACT PHONE #: _____
PARCEL SIZE: _____ PROPERTY TAX ID #: _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER FOR PERMIT PICK UP: _____

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

LAND CLEARING CONTRACTOR NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____
FLORIDA REG/CERT # _____ ST LUCIE CO. CERT. # _____
BUILDING CONTRACTOR _____
ADDRESS: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE VEGETATION REMOVAL ACTIVITY:

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY TO TAKE PLACE ON THE PROPERTY:

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Per Section 11.05.06 b. 6. of the St. Lucie County Land Development Code, The filing of an application shall be deemed to extend permission to the Environmental Resources Director, or designee, to inspect the subject site for purposes of evaluating the application. Please list any specific information such as a gate code or the necessity of 24 hour notice due to cattle grazing, controlled burns, outside pets, etc. _____

PART I - EXEMPTION

Any person who intends to remove or cause the death of any vegetation pursuant to any of the following exemptions must first fill out Part I of this form. The burden of proving entitlement to any particular exemption shall lie, at all times, with the person or persons claiming the exemption. **PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

____1. The minimal removal of vegetation necessary for the clearing of a path not to exceed 4' in width, to provide physical access or view necessary to conduct a survey or site examination OR 10' in width to provide vehicular access necessary to conduct soil tests, for the preparation of bona fide site development plans or vegetation inventories; provided such clearing or removal is conducted under the direction of a Florida registered surveyor or engineer. (\$30.00)

____2. The removal of vegetation in a utility easement, drainage easement, storm water management tract or facility, or right-of-way provided such work is done by or under the control of the operating utility company and that company has obtained all necessary licenses or permits to provide utility service through the easement. (\$30.00)

____3. The removal of vegetation which has been determined to be a safety hazard, destroyed or damaged beyond saving by natural causes or causes not covered by other sections of this chapter, is infected with disease or is infested with insects, or which constitutes immediate peril to life property or other trees. (\$30.00)

____4. The removal of native vegetation, upon any detached single family residential lot or parcel of land having an area of one (1) acre or less. This exemption is, however, subject to the following conditions: (\$55.00)

- A) Nothing in this exemption shall exempt any person from the landscaping requirements set forth in Section 7.09.00 of the St. Lucie County Land Development Code;
- B) This exemption shall not be construed to allow the removal or alteration of any protected vegetation without a Vegetation Removal Permit on any lot or parcel of land *by its subdivider* unless the subdivider intends to construct a residential unit or units upon the lot or parcel of land prior to its sale.
- C) No native vegetation twenty-four inches (24"), or greater, dbh shall be removed from any residential parcel (including those in the AG-5, AG-2.5, AG-1, AR-1, RE-1, and R/C zoning districts), regardless of parcel size, without an approved Vegetation Removal Permit and an approved mitigation plan.

____5. The removal of any non-native vegetation. (\$30.00 Fee)

____6. No vegetation to be removed. (\$30.00 Fee)

____7. The following activities do not require the application of a Notice of Vegetation, however may be required for Building Permit approval or other such authorization: (\$0.00 Fee)

- A) Preserve and Parks Management Activities. Vegetation removal activities associated with an adopted management plan for government maintained parks, recreation areas, wildlife management areas, conservation areas and preserves. The purpose of the vegetation removal activity shall be to protect and preserve the natural values and functions of the ecological communities present, such as, clearing for firebreaks, conducting prescribed burns, or construction of fences.
- B) Existing Agricultural Operations. Vegetation removal associated with subsequent harvesting activities, except within required preserve areas or deeded conservation easements, which are part of the on-going activities of the existing operation shall not require a permit. Initial clearing of a site is not an exempt activity. Bona fide agricultural activities include commercial nursery, tree farm, aquaculture, ranch, or similar operation.
- C) Routine Landscape Maintenance. Trimming or pruning of vegetation which is not intended to result in the eventual death of the vegetation, mowing of yards or lawns, or any other landscaping or gardening activity which is commonly recognized as routine maintenance, replacement or re-landscaping which

does not result in the eventual death of any vegetation, does not require the approval of a Notice of Vegetation Removal.

PART II - VEGETATION REMOVAL PERMIT

Applicants removing vegetation and who do not qualify for an exemption must fill out Part II of this form. Please complete ALL of the requested information. The Environmental Resources Director, or designee, shall issue a Vegetation Removal Permit only if sufficient evidence demonstrating that at least one of the following criteria has been satisfied:

 1. The applicant for vegetation removal permit shall demonstrate why preservation of the existing native vegetation is not practically feasible and prevents the reasonable development of the site.

 2. The removal of the native vegetation is the minimum necessary in order to implement a Final Development Order (i.e.; approved site plan or approved building permit).

 3. A Final Development Order has not been issued, or is not required by this Code for the intended non-agricultural use of the land and vegetation is the minimum necessary to allow for the construction of the intended use or improvement.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VEGETATION REMOVAL PERMITS:

1. Site Plan/Survey - The survey must accurately depict the location of all proposed buildings, structures, driveways, septic tanks, and other improvements; and the existing vegetative conditions on the project site, including an identification of what areas will be impacted by the proposed development activity and what areas are proposed for protection/preservation.

2. Vegetation/Tree Survey - The individual locations of all County-protected trees shall be shown on the Vegetation/Tree Survey.

3. List the number and type of trees to be removed (example: two 12” Live Oaks, one 24” Slash Pine, etc): ADD SHEET IF NECESSARY _____

4. Mitigation Calculations :

REQUIRED MITIGATION:

Total # of inches to be removed = X 2 = _____ REQUIRED MITIGATION

MITIGATION CREDITS:

Total # of inches to be preserved = _____ X 2 = _____ MITIGATION CREDITS

Total # of inches to be relocated = _____ X 1.5 = _____ MITIGATION CREDITS

Total # of inches to be planted = _____ X 1 = _____ MITIGATION CREDITS

TOTAL REQUIRED MITIGATION – TOTAL MITIGATION CREDITS = _____

Any remaining required mitigation inches may be purchased as nursery trees and delivered to the St. Lucie County Environmental Resources Department Nursery or paid for at \$200 per inch.

PLANT RESCUE:

Native vegetation which cannot be preserved or relocated on site should be considered for salvage or “rescue”. If the applicant is agreeable with allowing the salvage of native vegetation from the allowed areas of impact on their property please sign below.

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE = CONSENT TO ALLOW PLANT RESCUE

The vegetation shall remain available for removal for at least twenty (20) business days after issuance of the permit. The applicant is encouraged to participate with the salvage of this vegetation.

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS NOTARIZED:

I CERTIFY THAT: (CHECK ONE)

- A. () I AM THE OWNER OF RECORD OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY.
- B. () I AM NOT THE OWNER OF RECORD OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY; HOWEVER, I HAVE AUTHORITY TO ACT AS AGENT FOR THE OWNER OF RECORD. (PLEASE PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION).

I CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

OWNER/ AGENT SIGNATURE

CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE

STATE OF FLORIDA,
COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

STATE OF FLORIDA,
COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 20__, by _____, who is personally know to me or has produced _____ as identification.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 20__, by _____, who is personally know to me or has produced _____ as identification.

Signature of Notary

Signature of Notary

Type or Print Name of Notary

Type or Print Name of Notary

Notary Public _____ Title _____
_____ Commission Number

Notary Public _____ Title _____
_____ Commission Number

(SEAL):

(SEAL):

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____

SEE PERMIT FOR PERMIT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS/COMMENTS

REVIEWED/ APPROVED BY: _____
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT / DATE