Tree Permit Application

Community Development Department
City of Biloxi, Mississippi

Application Date:	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
DATE:
PERMIT#
FEE:
PARCEL#

☐ Single-Family Residential
☐ Multi-Family Residential, Commercial, or Industrial

Address and/or Project Name: _____

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

TREE CARE CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Contractor: _____
Tree Care Contractor's Business Name

State License # or ISA Certification #: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

PERMIT INFORMATION

Scope of Work: ☐ Removal ☐ Substantial Trimming (over 8" in diameter and outside of the definition of 'routine')

Description of Work: (please identify specific tree species and quantities)_____

_____

_____

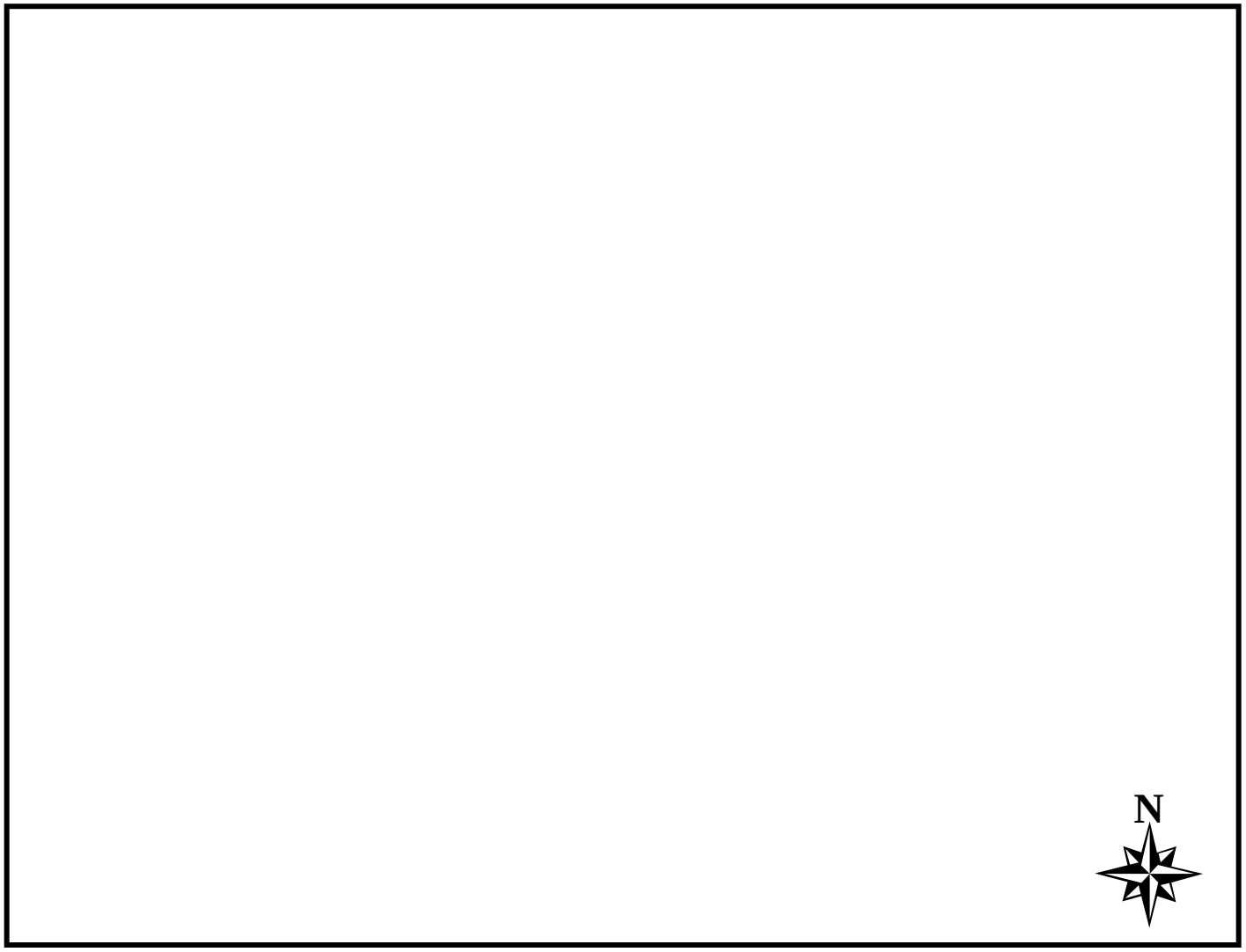
Please attach a site plan and/or attach pictures showing the location of the trees to be permitted or sketch their locations on the back of this application.

I hereby make application for permit to perform the work as described herein and if the permit is granted, I agree to conform to all regulations and ordinances of the City of Biloxi pertaining thereto and by the plans submitted.

Applicants Signature: _____
☐ Denied
☐ Arborist's Approval: _____
Arborist's Remarks: _____

_____

<u>Tree Site Plan</u>: Please show the location of all trees to be permitted.



Why does the applicant/owner want to remove the trees?

_____

_____

_____

Completed Applications may be emailed to jcreel@biloxi.ms.us or mailed to:

City Arborist
P.O. Box 508
Biloxi, MS 39533-0508

If you have any further questions, you may call the City Arborist at 228-435-6280 or e-mail to jcreel@biloxi.ms.us

WHEN DO I NEED A TREE PERMIT IN BILOXI?

Any Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), Chinese tallow or Popcorn (*Sapium sebiferum*), Water Oak (Quercus Nigra), or member of the Pine genus (*Pinus spp.)*; **do not require a permit** to remove anywhere in the City of Biloxi.

Routine trimming is any trimming that does not impair the tree's aesthetic, ecological, or economic value. Removal, relocation, or major pruning of five or more protected trees, 8" or greater in diameter at breast height, will require a public hearing before the Planning Commission prior to the issuance of any permit. (Exception: Single-Family Residential properties).

Crown cleaning, thinning, raising, reduction, or restoration (according to ANSI A300 "Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance - Standard Practices (Pruning)") shall be considered routine trimming.

Substantial Pruning shall require a permit. ANSI A300 5.0 Pruning Practices 5.5.3 Not more than 25% of overall foliage, 5.5.4 Not more than 25% of the foliage of a branch 5.5.7 "Topping and Lion's Tailing shall be considered unacceptable pruning practices for trees"

Single-Family Residential: A Tree Permit is required for the removal, relocation, or major pruning of a Live Oak, Bald Cypress, or Southern Magnolia Tree where the diameter is 8" or greater at breast height. A Tree Permit is not required for the removal, relocation, or major pruning of any protected tree with a diameter of less than 8" or any non-protected tree with a diameter of less than 16". Public Hearings are not required for Single-Family Residential properties, unless the removal, relocation, or major pruning involves a Majestic Tree.

Multiple-Family Residential (Apartments or Condos), Commercial, or Industrial Zoned Areas need a permit to:

1. Removal of (Live Oak, Bald Cypress, and Southern Magnolia) that are at least 8" diameter at DBH (diameter at breast height – 54" above the ground).
2. Removal of any other tree or woody perennial plant, which has a single trunk, which measures 16" or more inches.
3. In addition, the City will place one or more signs on the property for which the permit is sought, clearly visible by the public from any roadway adjacent to the property, stating "A permit to remove five (5) or more protected trees has been requested for this property. The Planning Commission will hold a full public hearing regarding this case at 2:00 p.m. on (date) at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. For further information call the Community Development Director at 435-6280". No preliminary or final permit to remove trees may be issued until the above-mentioned sign has been posted for at least fifteen (15) days.

The application and tree site plan shall be reviewed and either approved or denied by the tree committee within seven (7) working days from submission thereof unless the permit must go before the Planning Commission for a full public hearing and such action shall be reported in writing to the applicant.

Who is authorized to approve the permit?

- The City Arborist or Director of Community has the authority to issue permits to remove diseased trees, or remove trees on City property, which are not protected.
- The Tree Committee shall review any permits to remove one to four healthy protected trees in any zoning area.
- The Planning Commission shall review any permit to remove five or more healthy protected trees in a multiple-family residential (apartments or condos), commercial, or industrial-zoned area.

Violators will go to court!
Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a misdemeanor in the Biloxi Municipal Court.

Applications may be picked up at 676 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. or downloaded from the City's website at www.biloxi.ms.us in the forms/permits section under Resources.

TIPS FOR SELECTING A TREE CARE COMPANY

1. Education, experience, and a good reputation are signs of a good arborist or tree care professional.
2. **Beware of an arborist who is eager to remove a living tree.** Removal clearly should be a last resort. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call 228-435-6280 or email to **jcreel@biloxi.ms.us.**
3. Ask for local references - other jobs the company or individual has done. Take a look at some, and if possible, talk with the former client.
4. Have more than one tree care company look at your job and provide solutions and estimates. Don't expect one to lower a bid to match another's; be willing to pay for the estimate if necessary. Getting two or more opinions and cost estimates are well worth your extra effort.
5. A good tree care company will offer a wide range of services (pruning, fertilizing, cabling/bracing, lightning protection, pest control, etc.).
6. A conscientious tree care company will only use climbing spikes when removing trees completely.
7. **Beware of door-knockers**. Most reputable companies have all the work they can handle without going door-to-door. Door-knockers are especially common after storms when non-professionals see a chance to earn some quick money. Often, storm damage creates high-risk situations for both workers and homeowners, and there is opportunity for even more damage to trees if work is not done correctly.
8. **NEVER PAY IN ADVANCE. Never pay for work until you are completely satisfied.** Never be rushed by bargains ("If you sign an agreement today, I can take ten percent off the price...").
9. Ask for certificates of insurance, including proof of liability for personal and property damage (such as your house and your neighbor's), and workman's compensation. Then **phone the insurance company to make sure the policy is current**. Under some circumstances, you can be held financially responsible if an uninsured worker is hurt on your property, or damage is done to a neighbor's property!

State Licensed Tree Surgeons on the Gulf Coast

Company Name	Owner's Name	Phone #'s	Lic. #
Southern Tree Surgery, LLC	Todd Lipps	228-369-5521	35008
Loftus Tree Care	Will Loftus	228-363-2563	LT065
Cambium Tree Care & Preservation	Tony Miller	228-818-9900	34947
Donny McClain's Tree Experts	Donny McClain	228-875-4528	LT061
Bobcat Tree Work, LLC	Joey Wilson	228-806-8063	39639
Kennedy Tree Service	Angela Kennedy	228-669-7079	35112
The Tree Service	Lee Johnson	228-365-5787	LT765
Henske Tree Service	Arthur Henske	601-716-5126	1170319
Wright's Tree Ser.	J. B. Wright	228-392-9559	LT012
Taylor Tree Company	Jeremy Herring	228-255-8733	LT1942