

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Building Inspection Division

August 9, 2001



MEMORANDUM

BULLETIN L04-01

To: All Permit Applicants

From: Thomas H. Goldsbury, P.E., C.B.O.
Chief, Building Inspection Division

SUBJECT: Tree Barricades - Residential Subdivisions

With the changes in the Ordinance Code requiring a site clearing permit for the roadway, utilities, and ponds, etc., of residential subdivisions, we have all gone through a learning curve with regards to tree barricade requirements. As you know, the ordinance calls for all protected trees to be provided with tree barricades. This can be quite extensive. The Building Inspection Division agrees it is not necessary to protect the trees on the back of a single-family lot where none of this development work is occurring. It is very difficult for our Landscape Inspectors to perform a Tree Barricade Inspection on a large site that has not been thoroughly staked.

In an effort to make this work smoother for you and the Building Inspection Division, I am strongly suggesting that the site clearing permit set include a Tree Protection Plan. This could be as simple as delineating barriers within so many feet of the ROW along the roads if there are protected trees close by on the lots. Sections of clear lots would require nothing. Proposed barricades should also be shown around ponds, drainage outfalls, and other areas where construction activity could damage the trees. Be sure to consider required access for large equipment. A separate drawing would not be required, as this could be part of the tree mitigation plan.

Also remember that silt fences must be a minimum of six feet from all protected trees. The silt fence, if installed in this manner, may be used as a tree barricade in the outer areas of the site such as the landscape buffer or adjacent to pond construction away from the R.O.W. construction.

This way if our inspector had an approved Tree Protection Plan to go by, that is what they will inspect. Keep in mind, one of the main problems is parking of construction vehicles. Have your engineer consider this when making your plan.

Xc: Public Works

