

Tree Preservation Guide

COMMERCIAL

Tree Removal Permit Requirements:

- Tree Removal Permit application
- Sketch or site plan of the property, showing:
 - Property lines
 - Lot size (acres or sq. feet)
 - Location of house and any other structures
 - Location, species, and diameter of all existing trees. See below for measurement instructions.
 - Trees to be removed marked with an X.

See Page 2 for additional site plan information.
- Photos of trees to be removed
- For specimen tree removal, provide a statement from a registered Landscape Architect or Certified Arborist. Many tree removal companies also provide arborist services.
- Business License and Certificate of Liability Insurance of contractor
- Permit fee (see fee schedule)

What are Chamblee's commercial tree requirements?

Chamblee has tree preservation regulations that affect all properties within the City. All applicable sites, exclusive of existing single-family detached residential lots, are required to have trees with a combined diameter of at least 100 total inches per acre.

When do I need a tree removal permit?

Except for already-developed single-family detached residential lots, any type of development permit (land disturbance, demolition, or building permit), that requires removal of existing trees, require a Tree Removal Permit. Contact the Planning and Development Department, or see Section 320-34 of the Unified Development Ordinance for application requirements.

What is a *specimen tree*?

- Hardwood (Examples: oak, poplar, sweetgum): 24" diameter or larger.
- Softwood (Examples: pine, cedar, cryptomeria): 30" diameter or larger.
- Understory (Examples: dogwood, redbud, sourwood): 4" diameter or larger.

If you're not sure whether a tree is a specimen tree, please contact the Planning and Development Department.

When do I have to plant additional trees to meet tree density?

An applicant is required to plant additional trees to meet the minimum tree density requirements of Article 3 if the total tree density factor provided by the provisions of Section 320-39 of the UDO does not meet the minimum tree density factor of 100 inches DBH per acre. The site minimum DBH density requirement must be met whether or not a site had trees prior to development.

Are there opportunities for alternative compliance?

As determined by the City Landscape Coordinator, if the trees will not fit on the site, alternative compliance is available by recompense to the City of Chamblee Tree Bank Fund or planting the remainder of trees at a location remote from the project site. Recompense is to be paid per DBH in to be replaced, as provided in the Tree Preservation and Protection Fee Schedule maintained by the City.

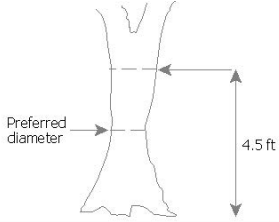
Permitting Process

Submit an application and all required documents to the Development Department via e-mail to ChambleeDevelopment@chambleega.gov, or in person at the Development Department office.

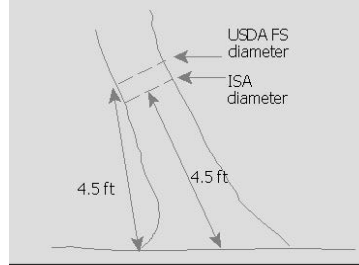
Permits are issued by the Development Department between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The typical review time for a tree removal permit application is one to three business days. Please contact us if you have any questions.

How to measure diameter at breast height (DBH)

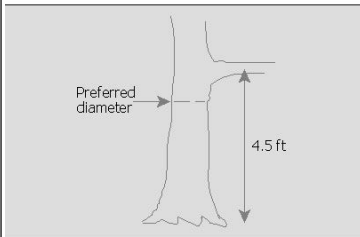
Breast height is 4.5 feet from the ground. A tree's diameter is its circumference (number of inches measured around the outside of the tree) divided by 3.14.



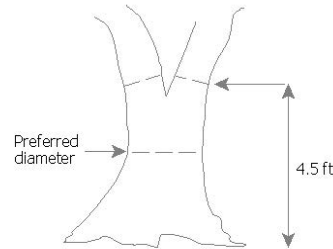
If the tree is tapered in a way where the diameter is smaller below the 4.5 ft mark, measure from the smallest point.



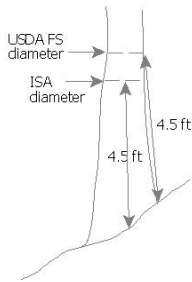
If the tree is leaning, measure 4.5 ft up the stem in the direction of the lean, or measure from the midpoint of the lean.



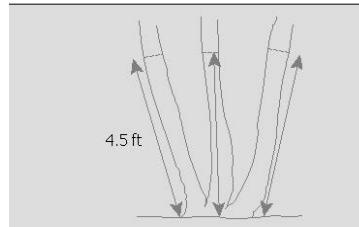
If the tree has branches or bumps that interfere with measurement at the 4.5 ft mark, measure from below the branch or bump.



If the tree forks below or near 4.5 ft, measure at the narrowest part of the main stem below the fork.



If the tree is growing on a slope, measure either 4.5 ft from the middle of the tree or measure from the top of the slope.



If the tree is split into several trunks, measure each trunk at 4.5 ft. The DBH is calculated as the square root of the sum of all trunk measurements.

Example tree removal site plan: Use a survey, plat, aerial photo with property lines, or sketch.

Removing 1 specimen tree - Oak 28dbh
Retaining required 50dbh on property
Approximately 0.5 acres

