



## TOWN OF ADDISON - PARKS AND RECREATION

16801 WESTGROVE DRIVE

ADDISON, TEXAS 75001

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For questions regarding the Tree Permit application,  
please contact Matt Ansted at [MANSTED@ADDISONTX.GOV](mailto:MANSTED@ADDISONTX.GOV)

### TREE PRUNING PERMIT FAQs

#### WHY DOES ADDISON REQUIRE A TREE PRUNING PERMIT?

There have been instances when trees on commercial properties have been disfigured or destroyed by pruning or trimming that does not conform to nationally accepted pruning standards. In an effort to protect and preserve the Town's urban forest, the Town requires a tree pruning permit to ensure more quality control of tree pruning in the community.

#### UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCE IS A COMMERCIAL PROPERTY RESPONSIBLE FOR ACQUIRING A TREE PRUNING PERMIT?

- A permit is required in the following instances:
- For removal of any scaffold branches (branches that grow laterally from the trunk) higher than 8 feet measured from the soil surface along the main trunk(s) of any canopy tree such as Live Oaks, Cedar Elms, Red Oaks, Bald Cypress, etc.
- If more than 10 percent of the total leaf or limb material of the live canopy of any canopy tree or Crape Myrtle is to be removed.

#### WHAT TYPE OF PRUNING SHOULD BE AVOIDED?

- Trees should be pruned or trimmed to enhance the natural appearance, size, and shape of the tree, including Crape Myrtles. Trees should not be trimmed, excessively lifted, limbed up or altered to create lopsided or void areas in the live canopy branching structure to enhance views to signs or building facades.
- Tree topping and "Lion-tailing" or excessive limbing or lifting up of trees is prohibited.
- Severe topping or cutting back of Crape Myrtles is prohibited. Crape Myrtles may be trimmed to remove old seed heads, or dead, broken, diseased, or interfering limbs.
- Cutting back, topping or "tipping" back of Crape Myrtle canes one-fourth of an inch in diameter or larger is prohibited.

#### WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATIONS?

The property owner can be fined \$2,000, and a separate offense shall be deemed committed each day during on or which a violation occurs or continues. They property owners will be required to replace a tree that is disfigured by prohibited pruning practices.

#### CRAPE MYRTLE TRIMMING

