



**You are required to obtain a permit for tree cutting if any of the following apply:**

- The tree(s) is on a ravine, along bluffs, or on slopes greater than 24%.
- The tree(s) is in the St. Croix River Corridor or on a lakeshore.
- The removal is associated with the construction, addition, installation or alteration of any structure; the extraction, clearing or other alteration of land; or the division of land into two or more parcels for the purpose of transfer of title or building development.

If any of the above conditions apply you must apply for a tree cutting permit prior to any trees being cut.

The below Application for Tree Cutting Permit includes full directions related to the City's Tree Cutting Requirements.

If you have questions on tree cutting or the tree cutting permit, please contact the the Community Development Department at 651-430-8820.



216 4<sup>th</sup> Street North Stillwater MN 55082  
651-430-8800  
[www.ci.stillwater.mn.us](http://www.ci.stillwater.mn.us)

## TREE CUTTING PERMIT

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Base Fee: No Fee**

Receipt No.: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Location of tree(s) to be removed:</b>			
Address	City Stillwater	State MN	Zip 55082
<b>Applicant</b>			
Name		Phone #	
Address	City	State	Zip
<b>Owner (if different from Applicant)</b>			
Name		Phone #	
Address	City	State	Zip

Replacement trees are proposed as follows (include size and species of each tree to be planted):

### Attached are the following documents (Required to be submitted with Application)

- ☐ A sketch of the property showing the location of all buildings, the location of all trees on the property, and the location of all trees to be removed.

### Declaration

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I hereby authorize the City of Stillwater and any agent or employee of it, to inspect the proposed tree removal at any reasonable time before any permit is issued, during any tree removal and following any removal.

Owner Signature (required)	Date
Applicant Signature	Date
<b>Review (For office use only)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Approved</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Denied</b>	Date    By

**Remember to call Gopher State One call at 651-454-0002 before you dig to identify any underground utility locations. This is a FREE service.**

## Instructions

### Application for Tree Cutting Permit

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You are required to obtain a permit for tree cutting if any of the following apply:

- The tree(s) is on a ravine, along bluffs, or on slopes greater than 24%.
- The tree(s) is in the St. Croix River Corridor or on a lakeshore.
- The removal is associated with the construction, addition, installation or alteration of any structure; the extraction, clearing or other alteration of land; or the division of land into two or more parcels for the purpose of transfer of title or building development.

If any of the above conditions apply you must apply for a tree cutting permit prior to any trees being cut. Below are the specific requirements. If you have questions please feel free to contact the City of Stillwater Community Development Department at 651-430-8820 for assistance.

#### **Trees/Vegetation removal on a ravine, along bluffs, or on slopes**

Stillwater City Code §31-5.2(3)c

Vegetation alteration in ravines, along bluffs and on slopes greater than 24 percent (measured over a horizontal distance of 50 feet) are subject to the following standards:

1. Selective removal of natural vegetation is allowed, provided sufficient vegetative cover remains to screen vehicles, dwellings and other structures.
2. No cutting or removal of trees over six inches in diameter measured at a point 54 inches above ground level within a required building setback area is permitted unless the trees are dead or diseased.
3. Natural vegetation must be restored as soon as feasible after any construction project is completed in order to retard surface runoff and soil erosion.
4. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to the removal of trees, limbs or branches that are dead, diseased or pose safety hazards.

#### **Trees/Vegetation removal in the St. Croix River Corridor**

Stillwater City Code §31-1.23(7)2.v

- v. On lands within 100 feet of the ordinary high-water mark and 40 feet landward of blufflines and on slopes greater than 12 percent there is no vegetative cutting of live trees or shrubs without a permit. A permit may be issued only if the cutting, including topping, involves trees less than six inches in diameter at breast height. The cutting, including topping involves vegetation which is not screening any structure from view from the river. The essential character, quality and density of existing growths is preserved and continuous canopy cover is maintained. The trees are diseased and their removal is in the public interest. The cutting is necessary for the maintenance of transportation lines or utility rights-of-way.

Stillwater City Code §31-1.23(7)3

3. A vegetative cutting permit is not required for the following; however, the vegetative cutting must be accomplished in such a manner that the essential character, quality and density of existing growth is preserved and continuous canopy cover is maintained as viewed from the river:
  - i. Clearing the minimum area necessary for a structure, sewage disposal system and private road and parking area, done pursuant to a validly issued building permit.
  - ii. Maintenance trimming or pruning on property or in transportation or utility rights-of-way.
  - iii. Vegetative cutting in areas of the St. Croix Riverway not covered under subsection (4) of this subdivision, provided that the vegetation is not screening any structure from view from the river.

#### **Trees/Vegetation removal along Lake Shores and Brown's Creek (Excluding the St. Croix River Corridor)**

Stillwater City Code §31-1.33(7)g

- g. Vegetation alteration necessary for the construction of structures and sewage treatment systems and the construction of roads and parking areas are exempt from the vegetation alteration standards that follow. Removal or alteration of vegetation is allowed subject to the following standards:
  1. Selective removal of natural vegetation shall be allowed, provided sufficient vegetative cover remains to screen cars, dwellings and other structures, piers, docks and marinas, when viewed from the water.
  2. No cutting or removal of trees over six inches in diameter measured at a point two feet above ground level within the required building setback shall be permitted unless the trees are dead or diseased. A certificate of compliance must be obtained prior to the removal of any trees.

3. Natural vegetation shall be restored insofar as feasible after any construction project is completed in order to retard surface runoff and soil erosion.
4. The provisions of this subsection (7)g shall not apply to allowed uses which normally require the removal of natural vegetation or to the removal of trees, limbs or branches that are dead, diseased or pose safety hazards.

**Trees/Vegetation removal due to construction or development**

Stillwater City Code §31-5.3(5)

- (5) Tree protection plan. A tree protection plan must be submitted for all development permits for property where significant trees are located within 15 feet of development structures or land disturbance. The plan must address the City's tree protection standards, but need not be prepared by a professional.
  - a. A tree protection plan must be submitted for concept PUD or preliminary subdivision plan review, or be included with submission of a grading plan if not a part of a subdivision or PUD.
  - b. The tree protection plan must include the following information:
    1. The name(s), telephone number(s) and address(es) of the applicant and the property owner;
    2. The location of all existing and proposed buildings, structures, or impervious surfaces situated upon or contemplated to be built upon the land;
    3. The delineation of all areas to be graded and the limits of land disturbance;
    4. The location and listing by size and species of existing significant trees, and delineation of the canopy cover of areas of significant trees greater than 10,000 square feet in size. The data on the significant trees should be listed in tabular form on the plan or included as an attachment;
    5. A list of measures to be taken to protect significant trees;
    6. A map showing trees prepared to be moved, removed or impacted; and
    7. The signature of the person(s) preparing the plan, their certification, and employer or firm, address, phone and fax numbers.

Stillwater City Code §31-5.3(6)

- (6) Tree replacement. the following standards shall be met when tree replacement is required:
  - a. Trees removed for subdivision improvements (drainage, road and utilities) must be replaced on the basis of 10 trees per acre of canopy removed.
  - b. All significant trees removed above the maximum 35 percent removal limit for private lot development must be replaced on a one-for-one basis. If 35 percent or less is removed, no replacement planting is required.
  - c. Trees replaced under this requirement are in addition to any other trees required to be planted pursuant to this subdivision or other city planning subdivision requirements.
  - d. Replacement trees must be planted on the development site according to an overall project tree replacement plan.
  - e. A replacement tree fee may be paid to the city if on-site tree replacement is not feasible. The fee shall be based on the retail costs of a 2" diameter deciduous tree.
  - f. A tree replacement plan must include the following items:
    1. Location. Applicant must provide a plan showing the size, species and location of all replacement trees proposed to be planted on the property in accordance with the tree replacement requirements.
    2. Species. Replacement trees must be species which are included on the approved tree list of the city. Greater than 50 percent of the replacement trees must be species indigenous to the area. Improved cultivars of native species may be counted as native species when planted in a boulevard or landscaped areas. In woodland restoration areas only native species should be used rather than improved cultivars.
    3. Size. Replacement trees must be an average of 2 inches in diameter for deciduous trees (except bur oak, bicolor oak, ironwood and ornamental trees, which may be an average of 1.25 caliper inches). Coniferous trees must be an average height of 6 feet.
    4. Trees moved from one area of the site to another will be counted as replacement trees if they are in a healthy condition and approved by the community development director.
    5. Warranty requirements. Any replacement tree that is not alive or healthy, as determined by the community development director, within two years after the date of planting, must be removed by the applicant and replaced with a new, healthy tree meeting the same species and size requirements.
    6. Planting standards. Planting must adhere to the tree and shrub planting standards of the City of Stillwater. The tree and shrub planting standards of the city are those adopted by resolution of the city council and on file with the community development director.