

## Tree Root Protection During Construction

**Installation and approval of tree root zone protection is required prior to start of any site work and should remain in place until completion of all exterior construction work.**

- The tree root protection zone requirements are set out in Section 7.3.D.3 of the United Development Ordinance.
- The minimum tree root protection zone shall be a circle with a radius of one half foot for every inch of trunk diameter at a height of 4.5' above existing grade. Radius measurement to extend from leading edge of root flare.
- Tree root protection shall be provided, based on required radius from trunk, for all trees remaining on site and for all adjoining lot trees which are within 5' of permitted lot property line.
- Prior to commencing **any** site alterations, a **conspicuous four foot high barrier** utilizing steel or wood posts spaced at 6' o. c. shall be erected around the root protection zone to prevent encroachment by equipment and vehicles. Approval by the Administrator required prior to issuance of permit. Barriers may be erected around groupings of trees, where feasible. **Use of orange polyethylene safety fencing or a similar material is required.**
- No construction materials, dirt, concrete, debris, oils, paints, or any other materials or equipment shall be placed or deposited within the tree root protection zone nor shall any trenching or paving be done within the tree root protection zone.
- No change in grade shall be permitted within the tree root protection zone except for a two-inch cut or two-inch fill of topsoil.
- A designated construction drive may be established outside of tree root protection zones for drop off of equipment and materials. After unloading, vehicles, trailers, etc. to relocate to designated surface parking area.
- Remedial site reclamation and tree care procedures may be required at the reasonable discretion of the Administrator when encroachment or construction activity within tree protection zones has caused damage to either a tree or tree growing site. Any such treatment shall be in accordance with accepted International Society of Arboriculture practices. Such treatment shall occur prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy. At the discretion of the Administrator, the planting of additional trees may be required if trees are damaged or destroyed.

**If tree protection fencing is not properly installed per these standards at time of inspection for permit approval, a second permit inspection fee will be required.**

**Call Martie Kay McTeer or email her at [mmcteer@cityofbeaufort.org](mailto:mmcteer@cityofbeaufort.org) for approval of installation of tree protection fencing prior to start of site work.**

[www.cityofbeaufort.org](http://www.cityofbeaufort.org) (departments/building codes)