

LANDSCAPING

It is the general policy of the District not to allow any landscaping to be planted within any of the District's rights-of-way or easements or within 20 feet from the edge of any body of water as measured from the control elevation. It has been determined by the District that the placement of landscaping within the District's rights-of-way, easements or reservations may be detrimental to the storage/flowage of stormwater throughout the District water management facilities or impede the maintenance of the facility.

Owners should be aware that they may be required to remove landscaping from the easements. The city landscaping departments might require a permit to remove these trees and it will be the owner's responsibility to obtain the approvals and to pay any costs involved with said removal.

At the February Management 2007 Board meeting the Board of Supervisors voted to revise a portion of the landscaping. See a summary of the revised regulation below.

CRITERIA FOR ALLOWING TREES TO REMAIN IN LAKE MAINTENANCE EASEMENTS:

Note that the new regulation shall only apply in lake locations where the lake is at least 100 feet wide as measured at the design water's edge. Furthermore, this regulation only applies to existing trees. It is not meant to change the District's prohibition against planting trees, hedges or other landscaping in lake maintenance easements.

Effective immediately, the South Broward Drainage District allows for the grandfathering of all trees presently within the lake maintenance easements on all lake front lots. No variance will be needed by the District to allow the existence of such trees. From this day forward, no additional trees are to be planted in lake maintenance easements. In addition, owners of coconut trees are obligated to insure that fronds and coconuts do not end up in lakes. If it shall ever become necessary for the District to remove, any tree from any easement for any reason, the cost of doing so will be borne solely and totally by the property owner.

No other existing District regulations are affected by this new policy. Specifically,

- No hedges or trees are permitted in drainage easements (whether the easements are being used for street drainage or for lake interconnect pipes) or boat ramp easements.
- No hedges are permitted in lake maintenance easements.
- No structures are permitted in any District easement.

The following Special Conditions will be added to every permit that is issued to an owner who has trees in the lake maintenance easement on his or her property.

Special Conditions

A. If, subsequent to the issuance of a permit that allows a tree to remain in a lake maintenance easement, the District finds necessary to have the previously permitted tree removed, the property owner shall be responsible for the cost of removing the tree.

B. In the event that a tree in a lake maintenance easement falls into the water or across the lake maintenance easement, the owner of the property on which the tree had been located shall have the tree removed within 30 days. If the owner fails to have the tree removed, the District shall have the authority to remove the tree at the owner's expense.