



Urban Green

Tree Conservation Ordinance

Our urban tree canopy is coming down. There is widespread infill development occurring around us, and we are losing our urban trees, as well as the rich diversity of our ecosystem.

There is such a thing as *intelligent* development, and this occurs where the trees are protected by tree ordinances. There are many good tree ordinances in effect throughout the US. Without effective tree protections in place, Clackamas County is unable to impose reasonable limits on tree cutting.

We are creating a tree ordinance to save the trees in our neighborhoods, even as infill development continues.

Brief overview of the ordinance

- Our tree ordinance applies to commercial and industrial property, as well as residential property *that can be partitioned or subdivided*.
- It only applies to areas within the urban growth boundary (not to the county at large).
- It has rules and regulations that address tree removal and the establishment of protected “heritage trees”. These would be integrated into the existing planning and development permit requirements.
- It includes related changes to some Zoning and Development Ordinances, including enforcement penalties that would be levied if tree cutting occurs prior to the permit application.
- It does not apply to single-family dwelling properties that cannot be further subdivided.

Our Tree Conservation Ordinance is consistent with:

- *Clackamas County Comprehensive Plan*
- *Complete Communities* recommendations
- Statewide Planning Goal #5 (implementing green space and habitat protection in the urban growth areas)
- The Development Standards within the County Zoning and Development Ordinance (ZDO)
- Implementation of the County's Sustainability Goals.

This complete list demonstrates that the Tree Ordinance supports all of the development responsibilities the County is mandated to implement.

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Urban Green is an association of local citizens living within the Urban Growth Boundary in Clackamas County that have joined together to help preserve and enhance the natural features of our neighborhoods.

Please join us in this effort!