

APPENDIX C: TREE REMOVAL PROCEDURES

Because The Reserve aspires to retain the appearance of an undisturbed natural landscape, tree removal is not permitted anywhere within a homestead without SARC approval. Owners are encouraged to respect this goal by adhering to the following procedures:

PRE-PLANNING

All existing forest and shrub masses should be indicated on the certified site survey that is prepared before the pre-planning meeting. Significant trees should be located on the survey, and the caliper size at the base of the trunk and approximate radius of the outermost branches should be recorded. No excavation or fill should be proposed within the branching radius of a tree that is to be preserved.

CONCEPTUAL PLANS

Within the development envelope and the driveway corridor, conceptual site and grading plans should indicate all significant trees that will likely be removed to accommodate the construction of buildings and the driveway. Outside the development envelope, selective thinning of forest trees to create or enlarge meadows, if proposed, should be also indicated on the site plan, but will only be approved by SARC for the purpose of enhancing views in the primary view corridor or for meadow and wildlife habitat improvement, trails, and forest regeneration. Where forest vegetation is essential to screen one neighbor from another, tree removal is not permitted.

FINAL PLANS

Final site plans must identify mature trees that will be removed or preserved within all disturbed areas. A final construction management plan must indicate where protective fencing is to be installed. Final landscape plans and specifications should include provisions for temporary tree protection, maintenance during construction, and any permanent protective improvements such as tree wells and root aeration systems.

SITE INSPECTION

In conjunction with SARC's final plan review, an on-site field visit will be scheduled to inspect staking of the building and the area of disturbance. In preparation for this site inspection, the owner must flag all trees that will be removed and, in a different color, all trees to be protected during construction. SARC will review the flagging on site with the owner and, in its sole discretion, will approve or disapprove the proposed tree removals.

CONSTRUCTION

Flagging on the trees to be saved is to be left in place for the duration of the construction process. Contractors will be liable for damage to any trees that were to be saved. SARC or its representative may visit the site during construction to verify that the site work is proceeding in compliance with the approved plans.