

Tree Removal Violations

Development Services Department

Example 1

Private Residential Property

One 25" Douglas Fir tree removed without permit

First and only known tree code violation

Exempt from fines

Permit required

- Supplemental trees
- Fees doubled

City costs of enforcement to be recovered

Violation Costs		
Fines	\$0	Exempt
Permit Fee	\$100	Doubled
Cost Recovery	\$500	Estimated Actual Costs
Total	\$600	

Example 2

Private Residential Property

Two trees removed

- 28” Douglas Fir
- 18” Douglas Fir

First and only known tree code violation

Not exempt from fines

Permit required

- Supplemental trees
- Fees doubled

City costs of enforcement to be recovered

Violation Costs

*Fines	\$45,000	Not Exempt
Permit Fee	\$200	Doubled
Cost Recovery	\$2,500	Estimated Actual Costs
Total	\$47,700	

*Property owner could petition HEX for a hardship to reduce fines to 25% (\$11,250)

Fine Calculation:

$$\text{\$1,000/tree} \times 2 = \text{\$2,000}$$

$$28'' \text{ tree} = \text{\$25,000 (max allowed)}$$

$$18'' \text{ tree} = \text{\$18,000}$$

Example 3

Private Residential Property

Ten trees removed

- 10” diameter each
- Top of critical area steep slope

Likely cut for view enhancement

Fines are tripled

Permit required

- Supplemental trees
- Fees doubled

City costs of enforcement to be recovered

Violation Costs		
*Fines	\$160,000	Not Exempt
Permit Fees	\$1,270	Doubled
Cost Recovery	\$10,000	Estimated Actual Costs
Total	\$163,770	

*Property owner could petition HEX for a hardship to reduce fines to 25% (\$40,000)

Fine Calculation:

$$\$1,000/\text{tree} \times 10 = \$10,000$$

$$50'' \text{ combined tree diameter} = \$50,000$$

$$\$50,000 \times 3 = \$150,000$$

Example 4

Public Property

Two trees removed

- 31” Douglas Fir
- 28” Douglas Fir

Likely cut for view enhancement

Fines are tripled

Remediation to be the estimated full canopy replacement of that removed

Permit required

- Fees doubled

City costs of enforcement to be recovered

Violation Costs

Fines	\$183,000	Tripled
Permit Fee	\$3,000	Doubled
Cost Recovery	\$20,000	Estimated Actual Costs
Total	\$206,000	

Fine Calculation:

$$\text{\$1,000/tree} \times 2 = \text{\$2,000}$$

$$31'' \times \text{\$1,000} = \text{\$31,000}$$

$$28'' \times \text{\$1,000} = \text{\$28,000}$$

$$\text{\$61,000} \times 3 = \text{\$183,000}$$

Example 5

Public Property

Eight trees removed

- 6-8” Douglas Fir
- 2-12” Douglas Fir

Likely cut for view enhancement

Fines are tripled

Remediation to be the estimated full canopy replacement of that removed

Permit required

- Fees doubled

City costs of enforcement to be recovered

Violation Costs		
Fines	\$240,000	Tripled
Permit Fee	\$3,000	Doubled
Cost Recovery	\$20,000	Estimated Actual Costs
Total	\$263,000	

Fine Calculation:

$$\$1,000/\text{tree} \times 8 = \$8,000$$

$$(6) \times 8'' \times \$1,000 = \$48,000$$

$$(2) \times 12'' \times \$1,000 = \$24,000$$

$$\$80,000 \times 3 = \$240,000$$



Next Steps