



# Calculating Replacement Inches and Tree Credits

During project submission, a review is conducted to determine whether replacement trees must be planted and/or contributions must be paid to the tree restoration fund to ensure compliance with the Hillsborough County Land Development Code. The project engineer should calculate the required number of tree replacement inches by following the steps below:

## Calculating Replacement

**Step 1:** Are there any trees 24" Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) or larger on the site that will need to be removed?

No: No replacement calculations are required.

Yes: Trees that are evaluated by a Certified Arborist or Landscape Architect and are determined to be in FAIR or better condition (see [Tree Condition Evaluation Form](#)) will be subject to a minimum of 50% replacement. Create a replacement chart on the plans that corresponds to the tree survey. Example:

| Tree Species         | DBH | Replacement percentage (multiplier) | Total Replacement Inches |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Live Oak             | 28  | 50% (.5)                            | 14                       |
| Live Oak             | 24  | 50% (.5)                            | 12                       |
| Live Oak             | 30  | 50% (.5)                            | 15                       |
| Laurel Oak           | 28  | 50% (.5)                            | 14                       |
| <b>Total (Fig 1)</b> |     |                                     | <b>55</b>                |

**Step 2:** Are there any oaks greater than 34" DBH that have been determined to be [Grand Oaks](#) by a Certified Arborist or Landscape Architect? (see [Grand Oak Point System & Evaluation form](#))

No: Skip to Step 3.

Yes: Create a Grand oak replacement chart on the plans that corresponds to the tree survey, and may include numbered trees for reference. Example:

| Tree Species         | DBH | Replacement percentage (multiplier) | Total Replacement Inches |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Live Oak #1          | 36  | 100% (1)                            | 36                       |
| Live Oak #3          | 52  | 150% (1.5)                          | 78                       |
| Live Oak #7          | 70  | 200% (2)                            | 140                      |
| Laurel Oak #9        | 38  | 100% (1)                            | 38                       |
| <b>Total (Fig 2)</b> |     |                                     | <b>292</b>               |

**Step 3:** Add the total from step one to the total from step 2 to determine the total number of replacement inches.

Example: 55 (Fig 1) + 292 (Fig 2) = 347 total replacement inches (Fig 3)

## Fullfilling Replacement Obligation

**Option #1:** Credit for new trees planted on site.

Replacement on site: Extra trees may be planted, or required trees may be upsized. For example, a required 1" DBH tree upsized to a 3" DBH shade tree, meets the Code requirement (1") and the extra (2") will be credited toward the total replacement inches calculated in Fig 3.

NOTE: When converting caliper measurement to DBH, subtract 1". Example: 3" caliper measured oak will be equal to a 2" DBH oak.

**Option #2:** Payment to tree restoration fund if there is not enough space to plant additional trees.

A combination of Option #1 and Option #2 may be used to reach the replacement inch requirement. The total cost is \$65 per remaining replacement inch.

**Remaining Replacement Inches after Option 1 x \$65.00 = \$Total Replacement Cost**



# Calculating Replacement Inches and Tree Credits

## EXISTING TREE CREDITS

1. [Section 6.06.03.B of the Land Development Code](#) allows credit for existing trees, based on size, toward the requirement for the minimum number of trees on a site only. **Existing trees may NOT be credited toward replacement tree requirements.**

| Development Type   | No. of Trees |
|--|--------------|
| Multifamily Residential ( $\leq 12$ u/a**)                         | 8/ga         |
| Mobile Home Park ( $\leq 12$ u/a)                                  | 8/ga         |
| Recreational Vehicle Park ( $\leq 12$ u/a)                         | 8/ga         |
| Residential Support Use  | 8/ga         |
| Recreational Facilities  | 8/ga         |
| Multifamily Residential ( $> 12$ u/a)                              | 6/ga         |
| Mobile Home Park ( $> 12$ u/a)                                     | 6/ga         |
| Recreational Vehicle Park ( $> 12$ u/a)                            | 6/ga         |
| Office, Neighborhood/General/Regional Commercial                   | 6/ga         |
| Intensive/Heavy Commercial, Industrial, Wastewater Treatment Plant | 6/ga         |

ga = gross acre

When trees are required to meet the landscaping requirements, credit for the use of existing trees shall be given according to tree size as provided in the following table:

| DBH (inches)  | No. of Tree Credits |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 35 or greater | 7                   |
| 30—34         | 6                   |
| 25—29         | 5                   |
| 20—24         | 4                   |
| 15—19         | 3                   |
| 10—14         | 2                   |
| 1—9           | 1                   |

2. If any of the preserved trees on site are located in a required Landscape Buffer or Island:

Trees located in the areas specified as a required landscape buffer or landscape island will be credited tree for tree toward proposed new trees in the buffer or island provided they meet the requirements of the Code. **Existing trees (preserved) do not count as credit toward the replacement inches calculated as shown in this document.**