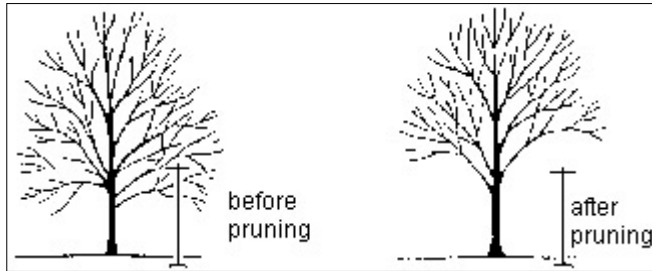




Town of Cutler Bay Homeowners' Responsibilities for Maintaining Trees Located In the Right-of-Way

Landowner Rights and Responsibilities



It is the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain the public right-of-way (swale area) which abuts their property. The Town of Cutler Bay's Code (Sec. 14-23. - Private landowner rights and responsibilities) states the following: "Every property owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the Town shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not substantially obstruct the view of any street

intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of thirteen (13) feet above street surface or eight (8) feet above the sidewalk surface. Said property owners shall also be responsible for the maintenance of the trees in the swale areas abutting their properties in accordance with section 26-192 so that such branches shall not substantially obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of thirteen (13) feet above street surface or eight (8) feet above the sidewalk surface. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs that constitute a menace to the safety of the public. (Ord. No. 09-07, § 2(5), 2-18-2009)"

Tree Pruning Rules

Proper tree pruning can improve a tree's health, safety, and appearance. However, if improperly pruned, a tree may become diseased, may die, and may present a greater safety hazard. Therefore, in order to protect our Town's tree canopy, the Town of Cutler Bay requires that tree pruning must comply with methods specified by the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) ANSI A300 – Standards for Tree Care Operations.

Examples of Improper Pruning

The following are common examples of improper pruning which would violate the Town's tree protection ordinance and result in fines.

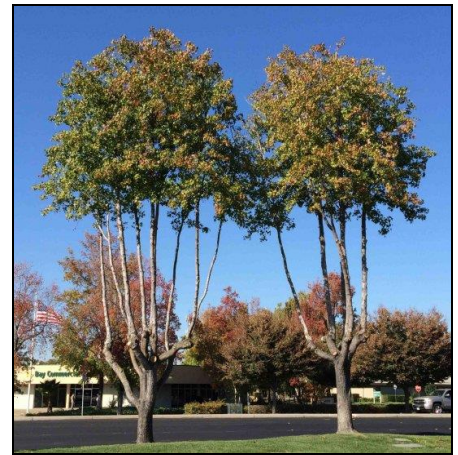
- **Removal of more than 25% of a tree's canopy** in any one year period.
- **Topping or hat-racking** – the cutting back of the trunk and/or main branches of a tree, removing an excess of the tree canopy or crown.
- **Lion tailing** – the excessive removal of living foliage from the interior of the main branches of a tree.



Removal of more than 25% of a tree's canopy



Topping/hat-racking



Lion tailing

Tree Removal or Relocation

A tree removal/relocation permit is required for the removal or relocation of any tree within the Town of Cutler Bay or Miami-Dade County. Prior authorization from Miami-Dade County, under the administration of the Department of Environmental Protection (DERM), is required for any tree removal or relocations within the Town of Cutler Bay and unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County. For more information on tree removals/relocations, call the Miami-Dade County Tree Program at 305-372-6574.

Tree City USA

The Town of Cutler Bay has received the Tree City USA Award for nine (9) years in a row since 2009 and the Tree City USA Growth Award for six (6) years in a row since 2012 from the Arbor Day Foundation.



For more information, please call (305) 234-4262 or visit our website at: www.cutlerbay-fl.gov