

TREE REMOVAL REQUEST

Name _____

Date _____

Block & Lot # _____

Phone _____

Street Name _____

RE: Number of Trees to be Removed: _____

Type of tree to be Removed: _____

Approx. Height of Tree(s): _____

Diameter of Tree(s): _____

Location of Tree(s) _____

We are concerned about the tree(s) in our yard because the tree(s) a potential hazard because:

_____ The tree(s) are diseased

_____ The tree(s) are a windstorm hazard

_____ The tree(s) are a hazard to my property and/or a neighbor's property

_____ The tree(s) are dead

_____ Other

We are requesting permission to remove the tree(s) listed above from the Waterfall Property Owners Association.

Applicant signature: _____

Date _____

() Approved () Disapproved () Conditionally Approved

ARC Chair: _____

Date _____

Tree Removal Criteria for Waterfall Property Owners Association

To maintain the aesthetic appeal, environmental benefits, and overall property value within the community, the Property Owners Association (POA) requires prior approval for the removal of any tree exceeding **(8) inches** in diameter at breast height (DBH) or any tree of significant environmental or community value.

Approval Process:

1. **Submission of Request:** For any tree removal, we ask property owners to submit a written request to the POA, including:
 - The location, size, and species of the tree(s) to be removed.
 - The reason for removal (e.g., disease, storm damage, construction impact).
 - A plan for replacement if required.
2. **Review & Inspection:** The POA will review the request and may conduct an on-site inspection to assess the necessity of removal.
3. **Approval or Denial:** The POA will provide written approval, denial, or request for modification within 30 days of submission.
4. **Replacement Requirements:** If removal is approved, the property owner may be required to replace the tree(s) with an approved species, per POA guidelines.

Failure to obtain POA approval before tree removal may result in penalties, fines, and/or required replacement at the owner's expense.

Section 22 of the **Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions** for Waterfall at Lake Burton, recorded in Deed Book 5-18, Page 309-342 (the "Declaration") states as follows:

"After completion of a Residential Unit on a Lot, no trees shall be removed from any Lot by an Owner, other than Declarant, affiliates of Declarant or a Builder, without the prior written consent of the ARC, except for diseased or dead trees requiring removal for safety reasons." Tree removal by Builders or owners in connection with the development of residential homes involve a separate process of approval in connection with such construction and are governed by (a) Section 4 of the Declaration, and (b) those certain Property Owner's Association's Architectural Review Committee Architectural Guidelines, last revised January 1st, 2025, a copy of which may be found on our website.

Undesirable Tree List:

In Rabun County, Georgia, certain trees are considered "trash trees" or invasive due to their non-native status and tendency to disrupt local ecosystems. Here's a list of some trees that fit this description:

1. Bradford Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)
2. Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
3. Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)
4. Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*)
5. Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
6. Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)
7. White Mulberry (*Morus alba*)
8. Chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*)
9. Paulownia (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
10. Silktree (*Albizia julibrissin*)

Native and Desirable Tree List:

In the Northeast Georgia mountains, certain native trees are well-suited for real estate developments due to their longevity, resistance to wind damage, and resilience against pests. Here are some of the best options:

1. White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
2. Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)
3. Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*)
4. American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)
5. Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
6. Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
7. Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
8. Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
9. Chestnut Oak (*Quercus montana*)
10. American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)

These native trees are excellent choices for real estate developments in the Northeast Georgia mountains due to their strength, longevity, and resilience against environmental challenges. They contribute to the beauty and ecological health of the landscape while minimizing risks related to wind damage and pests.