

| LDC CODE UPDATE | |
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| DATE: | July 2025 |
| LDC SECTION: | Article 1, Division 2 – Definitions Related to Tree Protection and Replacement |
| COMP PLAN REFERENCE: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | |
| <p>Background</p> <p>Updates to Division 2 are proposed to incorporate direction from the Board regarding the need to better protect trees within the County, add definitions for Specimen Trees.</p> <p>Changes to the LDC Section</p> <p>Changes are proposed throughout the Division. Some highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addition of definitions for Specimen Trees <p>Attachments: Redline LDC Changes to Article 1 Division 2</p> | |

- LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE

Article 1 - ADMINISTRATION

DIVISION 2. DEFINITIONS

Reference Only?

PLANT, INVASIVE EXOTIC. Any plant species as listed in the most recent version of F.A.C. Rules 5B-57.007 Noxious Weed List or 5B-64.011 Prohibited Aquatic Plants. " tables, as updated.

- (1) Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council Category I & II List of *Invasive* Plant Species,
- (2) Prohibited Aquatic Plants per F.A.C. 5B-64.011, and
- (3) Center for Aquatic and *Invasive* Plants, University of Florida, IFAS.

Add the following definitions to Division 2 of the LDC:

TREE, REGULATED. Any existing non-invasive non-exotic tree species that is 10" diameter breast height (DBH) or larger, or any tree that was planted in compliance with an approved development order or to mitigate the prior removal of a Regulated Tree. Pine and palm tree species are also considered Regulated Trees.

TREE, CRITICAL ROOT ZONE. The at-grade and subterranean area adjacent and surrounding the existing tree's trunk where the tree's roots are located that provide stability and uptake of water and minerals required for the tree's survival. The tree's critical root zone, or 'CRZ', is the area is defined as a circular area, centered on the trunk of the tree, with a radius equivalent to the greater of 6 feet or 4 times the tree's DBH. For example, a 10" DBH tree would have a CRZ of 6', a 12" DBH tree a CRZ of 6', and a 24" DBH tree a CRZ of 8'.

TREE, PROTECTION ZONE. The at-grade and subterranean area surrounding the trunk of an existing tree or group of trees to be preserved, intended to protect roots and soil to ensure future tree health and stability. The tree protection zone, or 'TPZ', is the area defined by the extent of the tree's canopy dripline.

TREE, SPECIMEN. A Regulated Tree that is 36" DBH or larger; in good condition as determined from a proper evaluation by a Certified Arborist or Landscape Architect and confirmation by the County Landscape Architect; and offers value due to its species type, age, historic value, or other outstanding qualities.