

VERONA RESERVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Landscaping: Hardwood Tree Removal or Replacement Policy

Purpose: To establish policy and procedures regarding the removal or replacement of hardwood trees* within Verona Reserve.

Policy Statement: Sarasota County's Environmental Protection Division has regulatory authority over the removal or replacement of hardwood trees for 7 years from the date the original Certificate of Occupancy (COO) was issued, and as such, owners must apply for a permit, or be granted a written waiver, to remove or replace any live hardwood tree planted on their lot.

Process (Live Trees):

If an owner wishes to have a live oak or black olive tree removed or replaced at their expense, they **MUST** contact Sarasota County's Environmental Protection Division and **apply for a permit prior to submitting an architectural review application**. Visit www.scgov.net/government/departments/planning-and-development-services/environmental-protection/environmental-permitting or call 941-861-5000 more information. If the original Certificate of Occupancy was issued over 7 years ago, a permit is not required, but the owner **must submit proof** when submitting an architectural review application. To search permits to see when the COO was issued, visit <https://building.scgov.net/PublicPortal/Sarasota/SearchPermits.jsp>.

Once the owner has received either a permit, written waiver or evidence of a COO over 7 years, an architectural review application may be submitted for consideration. Owners may choose from the following County-approved trees as replacements:

- Black Olive
- Dahoon Holly
- Little Gem Magnolia
- Live Oak

The architectural review committee will not review any application that does not include either the permit, written waiver from the County or evidence that the COO was issued over 7 years ago, nor will the Board of Directors approve any application without the proper documentation.

Process (Dead Trees):

Any hardwood tree that has died, with no green or yellow leaves remaining, shall be replaced as soon as scheduling permits, at the expense of the Association. In this situation, a permit is not required and it is a function of grounds maintenance. ARC review and Board approval is not required. Owners should contact the property management company, who will then create a work order to have the tree replaced.

- Owners of the residence will have an opportunity to choose a suitable replacement tree from the list of approved trees.
- The property management company will notify the owners when the tree removal and replacement is scheduled, continue to monitor the owners concerns throughout the process and follow-up to ensure the replacement tree is installed to the owners' satisfaction.

Board Approved Replacement Trees:

- Black Olive
- Dahoon Holly
- Desert Cassia
- Jatropha
- Little Gem Magnolia
- Live Oak
- Simpson's Stopper

***This policy excludes those trees that are considered "Grand Trees" as defined by Sarasota County and have specific restrictions on removal.**