



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
PLANNING DIVISION**

**P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546**

**Phone: (760) 965-3630 Fax: (760) 934-7493**

[www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov)

**TREE REMOVAL PERMIT**

(Municipal Code Section 17.36.140)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ APN: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual or company felling the tree(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Tree Species (to be removed): \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Trees: \_\_\_\_\_

Diameter(s) as measure 4' from the ground <sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Method of Removal: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Request (See Municipal Code Section 17.36.140.C for exemptions): Please check all that apply.

- The tree(s) is infected with an epidemic insect or disease where the recommended control is not applicable and an arborist has recommended removal to prevent transmission.
- The tree(s) is visibly dying.
- The tree(s) presents a hazard to health, safety, or property that cannot be corrected by pruning, transplanting, or other treatments.<sup>2</sup>
- The tree(s) severely interferes with the growth and development of a more desirable tree.
- The removal of the tree(s) would be necessary to provide for the required amount of snow storage on a residential or commercial property (75% and 60%, respectively, of all uncovered required parking and driveway areas).
- The removal of the tree(s) would substantially increase mid-day solar access to a solar collector.
- The tree(s) interferes or is causing extensive damage to utility services or facilities, roadways, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, pavement, water or sewer line(s), foundations, or existing structures.
- The removal of tree(s) would be necessary to maintain defensible space around a structures, or for fuels reduction purposes approved by Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District.
- The removal of the tree(s) would allow for improved enjoyment or quality of a publicly-accessible recreation or event site (e.g., improved event circulation or seating, enhanced golf course playability, etc.) consistent with the Town's destination resort objectives.
- Other reason, which, in the determination of the Director, would be necessary to maintain public health, safety, or welfare, or to avoid damage to buildings or property.<sup>2</sup> Please specify:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Creation of views, lawns, or similar amenities shall not be sufficient cause to remove trees.

<sup>1</sup> A permit is not required for coniferous and deciduous trees with a "Diameter at Breast Height" (DBH) of less than 12 inches.

<sup>2</sup> A Tree Hazard Risk Assessment performed by a qualified arborist may be required prior to approval.

As mitigation for tree removal, the Director may require replacement plantings. If required, please indicate replacement plantings in areas suitable for tree replacement (M.C. §17.36.140.I.).

Please provide an approximate Plot Plan of the subject property showing the tree(s) proposed to be removed.

Conditions of Approval:

1. Applicant agrees to adhere to California Department of Forestry Guidelines for Tree Protection (attached).
2. Additional Conditions (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This project requires the removal of tree(s). If they will be sold, traded, or bartered, I will comply with the requirements of the California Department of Forestry (CDF), including filing necessary forms. Tree removal will not commence until CDF approval is received.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the applicant hereby certify that all information contained herein is true and accurate and shall hereby acknowledge that I have read this application and I will comply with all Town of Mammoth Lakes ordinances and conditions of approval relative to this permit.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Town Use Only

Approved

Denied

by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Ext: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print

The California Department of Forestry gives the following guidelines for tree protection. The developer shall implement these guidelines.

Planning and Design Considerations:

1. The design of the structures and improvements should fit the lay of the land, not the reshaping of the land to fit the project.
2. The health and stability of the trees should be determined. If future problems will occur if the tree is left, consider removal.
3. Review tree locations in relation to planned roads, driveways, structures, and utility corridors. If a tree root system will be significantly damaged during construction, the tree should be a candidate for removal, or the design layout changed.
4. Leave a variety of tree species and ages that would be beneficial in preventing the spread of harmful insects and diseases.
  - a. Young trees need room to grow in the future.
  - b. Old large trees can blow down, drop limbs, and are more likely to suffer fatal insect attack and have disease problems.
  - c. Do not remove young or small trees to favor leaving old large trees.
5. Take into account the shade and sunlight requirements of the trees.
6. Sanitation harvesting prior to developing the site removes hazardous, overmature, insect or disease-infested, unthrifty trees and improves the health and stability of the remaining trees. The cost of removing problem trees is substantially less before construction.
7. If possible, minimize pre-construction and construction activities during the spring and summer months of drought years. Tree disturbance may trigger outbreaks of bark beetles during these dry periods because the trees are already in a stress condition due to the lack of water.

Protection of Trees to be retained:

1. Do not enclose tree trunks within rooflines or decking. As the tree continues to grow, future structural damage may occur and injury may occur to the tree.
2. Do not pave over or encase the base of trees in planters or other enclosures. Such activities may change soil temperature, soil moisture content, compact the soil, disturb the root system, interfere with oxygen exchange in the soil, thus placing the impacted tree in a stress condition.
3. Dispose of coniferous slash within 15 days after its creation. This material is ideal breeding ground for insect pests and may create a fire hazard
4. Apply granular borax to freshly cut conifer stumps the same day a tree is cut to prevent germination of harmful root disease spores.
5. Avoid root system undermining, grade changes and soil compaction within the dripline of trees.
6. Keep utility trenches, driveway cuts, footings and retaining walls outside the trees' dripline to minimize root disturbance.
7. Avoid back-filling around trees. The original grade level should be maintained within the dripline.
8. If construction equipment must be used near trees, protection should be used to reduce compaction on the root system and physical damage to the tree trunk.
9. During and after construction, consider treating selected conifers to protect them from bark beetle attack while the trees are in a weakened condition.
10. Avoid placing lawns or water-dependent vegetation beneath native established trees. Excess watering is harmful to native trees.
11. Do not hang utilities or other hardware on trees. The resulting injuries may allow harmful pests to enter the tree.