

**TREE PRUNING AND REMOVAL FORM**

All trees must be clearly marked or identified for pruning or removal with brightly colored tape.

Number of trees to be pruned \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Number of trees to be removed \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Clear cutting or topping is not allowed. Any infraction will be fined.**

Estimated start date \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated completion (30 days max.) \_\_\_\_\_

It is the homeowners' responsibility to obtain ACC approval before starting any work.

Work Hours are Monday – Friday 7:30AM -7PM, Saturday 8AM – 6PM only

**THE ACC HAS 15 DAYS TO RESPOND TO YOUR REQUEST.**

I have read and acknowledged and shall comply with the RULES, REGULATIONS, AND C.C.R.'s of the PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, as well as any special conditions noted on form. I am aware that I will be held liable for any damages or infractions caused to Walnut Mountain Property.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOT # \_\_\_\_\_ PROPERTY OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL TREE CONTRACTORS MUST HAVE LIABILITY INSURANCE.**



## **TREE AND SHRUB CUTTING RULES AND PROVISIONS**

### **Please Read All of the Provisions before Filling out the Attached Form**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose is to establish clear and defined rules for tree and shrub pruning and removal and to establish consequences for any violations of these rules.

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) of the Property Owners Association (POA) is charged with the responsibility for protecting the natural environment of Walnut Mountain and enforcing the rules.

#### **Definitions Used:**

**Vista Pruning:** is defined as removal or pruning of trees and shrubs for a view or for other needs. Views of all kind can be achieved by very careful removal and pruning of trees in harmony with the natural environment. Excessive removal and pruning is not allowed. This most often happens when one attempts to achieve a “panoramic” view. The goal is to vista prune in such a way that on completion the tree appears natural. The approved method for opening up a view is to create a “window” within the forest. The “window” typically consists of an opening large enough to provide a view, but small enough so that much of the foliage remains. A top canopy of foliage shall partially cover the opened area. This can be best accomplished through a combination of side pruning or crown cleaning. This includes dead, dying, rubbing and structurally unsound limbs. This improves tree health and enhances appearance.

**Crown Cleaning:** The “Crown” is defined as all of the branches above the trunk. The standard\* specifies that not more than one third (1/3) of the leaf surface be removed. This allows greater leaf surface area for photosynthesis. In some cases, a limited number of trees may need to be removed, as long as a majority of trees remain.

**Side Pruning:** Generally on one side of the tree, but may be both, to allow for a Vista view.

**Seasonal View:** This happens during the autumn and winter months, when the leaves have fallen from the deciduous trees such as: Oaks, Tulip Poplar, etc.

**Natural Flowering Trees And Shrubs:** These are dogwoods, native azaleas, mountain laurel and rhododendron. These are all low growing and beneficial for beauty and erosion control.

#### **Provisions:**

In reviewing each request the ACC will consider the impact each request has as it relates to other adjacent properties, the view from a distance and the impact on our forest.

**Request for Approval Form:** This form is available at the main office or from the web site at ([www.walnutmtnga.com](http://www.walnutmtnga.com)). The ACC will review each request for pruning or removal, on a individual basis, and determine the best and most reasonable plan for creating or maintaining a view, without being detrimental to our forest. This form **must** be submitted by the property owner prior to any tree work. All trees to be altered **must** be identified with brightly colored tape in such a manner as to be easily identified by the ACC. This can be accomplished by wrapping the tape around the tree, use ONE circle around the tree for pruning and TWO circles for removal. For your safety it is best left to the company doing the work. The property boundaries **must** be clearly marked.

The ACC will review the request and complete a site inspection, noting the trees to be altered. Upon completing this review, the ACC will submit its approval or disapproval to the home owner. Please note that it is the property owners' responsibility to direct and manage the tree trimming service. This tree trimming service is only allowed for that which was approved by the ACC. The Property owner will be subject to fines up to \$500 per infraction.

Upon completion of the tree work, the Property Owner **must** notify the ACC that the work has been completed. Upon receiving such notice, the ACC will conduct a final review of the property to insure compliance.

**PLEASE CALL ACC UPON COMPLETION AT 706-635-2565.**