



**CITY OF BLACK  
DIAMOND**  
Community Development Dept.  
24301 Roberts Drive / PO Box 599  
Black Diamond, WA 98010  
(360) 851- 4567

# TREE REMOVAL EXEMPTION APPLICATION

## **ABOUT TREE REMOVAL EXEMPTIONS:**

Trees exempt from regulations includes any tree under six inches diameter at breast height or those included on the following list, regardless of size:

1. Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*);
2. Cottonwood (*Populus freemontii*);
3. Native alder (Native *Alnus* only);
4. Native willow (Native *Salix* only);
5. Lombardy poplar (*Populus nigra*).

The following actions are exempt from needing a tree permit:

- A. Emergency removal of any hazardous significant trees necessary to remedy an imminent threat to persons or property;
- B. Removal of significant trees within or adjacent to public rights-of-way or easements, at the direction of the City
- C. Removal of Obviously Dead or Diseased Trees. Prior to removal of an obviously dead or diseased significant tree, the property owner or person in control of the property shall file an exemption application for tree removal with the Community Development Department and request exemption from the requirement to obtain a tree removal permit.
- D. No more than six significant trees under 16-inches dbh may be removed in any period of 36 months. Prior to removal an exemption application shall be filed. It may only be granted under the following conditions:
  1. There is no current development application for the lot
  2. The tree(s) are not within an easement protecting a critical area, open space or a buffer area
  3. At least two significant trees must remain on each lot
  4. Removal will not reduce the approved density of significant trees
- E. Trees that have been grown for the purpose of sales of Christmas trees or commercial landscaping materials by commercial nurseries and tree farms; and
- F. Harvesting with a Class II or Class III or Class IV forest practices permit.

## **REVIEW PROCESS:**

Prior to removal, the owner, or person in control of the lot, shall file an exemption application for tree removal with the Community Development Department.

The Director may grant an exemption subject to the following conditions:

1. There is no current application for development on the subject lot;
2. The tree(s) is (are) not within, an easement protecting a regulated critical area, a designated primary or secondary open space or a required buffer area;
3. At least two significant trees must remain on each lot; and
4. Removal of the trees will not reduce the density of significant trees on the lot below the density approved as part of the landscape plan pursuant to BDMC Section 19.30.060(C).

## **Code References**

Zoning and Procedures  
Title 18 BDMC

Tree Preservation  
Chapter 19.30 BDMC

## **Resources**

King County iMap  
Black Diamond Zoning Map

## **Questions?**

Planning Division  
Permit Status

**City of Black Diamond**  
24301 Roberts Drive  
PO Box 599  
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98010

[www.blackdiamondwa.gov](http://www.blackdiamondwa.gov)



5. If development activities occur within 1 year of the receipt of an approved tree exemption under this provision, the owner will be subject to the tree replacement requirements established in Section 19.30.070 for all trees removed in association with the exemption. The requirement to plant replacement trees shall be placed as a condition of approval on any permit for development activities.

### SITE INFORMATION

Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Arborist: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Trees to be Removed: \_\_\_\_\_

List of Size and Type of Trees to be Removed: \_\_\_\_\_

### SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

1. ☐ Completed Tree Removal Exemption Application form
2. ☐ Completed, signed Master Application Form - Planning Division
3. ☐ Aerial image or site plan showing:
  - a. Property lines
  - b. Structures/ improvements on site
  - c. Any critical areas on site
  - d. Identify all significant trees (over 6" diameter) on site.
  - e. Identify location, species, and size of all trees to be removed.
  - f. Identify location, species, and size of all trees to be replaced, if applicable.
4. ☐ If trees are hazardous or diseased, the Department may require additional information such as:
  - a. Narrative describing tree condition.
  - b. Photographs showing tree condition.
  - c. A statement from a certified arborist recommending removal of the tree.
  - d. If the project is within 200-feet of Lake Sawyer additional restrictions may apply per the Shoreline Master Program.

### CITY DECISION

☐ Approved ☐ Denied

Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mona Davis, Community Development Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_