

Hazardous Tree Removal Policy

Association maintains a conservation easement with Saint Johns River Water Management District, a legal agreement designed to conserve open space, water recharge areas, environmentally sensitive lands, and wildlife habitat. The District holds the conservation easement, but The Villages of Valencia HOA., owns the property. The conservation easement restricts activities, including tree removal/felling, in the encumbered area to keep it in its natural condition. Therefore, requests for tree removal/felling or conservation work must be approved by the District. The District may act against the association to ensure that the conservation easement restrictions are followed.

All resident requests for tree removal/felling within the common preserve areas will be submitted to Saint John's Water Management District and are contingent upon the District's approval. Residents shall only make tree removal/felling requests if the following conditions are met:

- *The tree(s) are hazardous exhibiting signs of poor health, or have structural defects; and*
- *The tree is growing near a residence or high traffic area*

Residents shall make tree removal/felling requests in writing and deliver to Leland Management.

Resident's requests shall include:

- *Name, address and contact information of resident; and*
- *Details on the tree(s) location and the distance from the residence, structure or high traffic areas; and*
- *State approximate height of the tree(s); and*
- *Details on health or structural defects of the tree(s); and*
- *Photos of the tree(s) with tree(s) clearly indicated; and*
- *Photos of the tree(s) in relation to the residence, structure or high traffic areas*

Resident's requests will be submitted monthly to the District monthly unless deemed of urgency by the Board of Directors.

All tree removal/felling will be performed in a manner consistent with the District's approval, even when in conflict with the resident's request. District approval is usually subject to the following conditions:

- *Tree(s) will be topped at 15 feet from the ground*

ADOPTED 6/10/2024
[Signature]
Christy [Signature] *[Signature]*

- *All work will be conducted in such a manner to cause minimal damage to other tree, shrubs, and soil disturbance within the conservation easement*
- *At no time, will heavy equipment or machinery be allowed within the conservation easement*
- *Replanting (if applicable, given the specific situation) – species to be determined by the District*

The Villages of Valencia Homeowners Association will only incur costs for the felling of trees deemed to be an imminent danger by the Board of Directors due to severe decline or death of the tree and danger to a residence or high traffic area. Residents will receive written approval from the association stating the number of trees authorized for felling and approval stipulations.