



Tree Care for Celebration CDD

Safety:

Firstly, the most important aspect is the safety of people and property in the community. Therefore, all tree care operations in the community will be guided by ANSI Z133 standards. These safety standards should be strictly followed to provide workers and bystanders a safe environment. These standards will be followed when conducting approved work within the community of Celebration.

Note: When conducting work in high traffic areas of foot or vehicle traffic, partial closures may be necessary to conduct work safely. This will be necessary when doing all aerial lift operations.

Tree pruning standards and operations:

Tree pruning standards will be conducted according to ANSI A300 Part 1-Best Management Practices (BMP). This is a standard guide for proper care of trees and should be followed when possible. It should be noted when doing clearance cuts for vegetation management i.e. trimming over roads and sidewalks where clearance is required, care will be taken to not cause any undo harm to the tree.

When it is required to trim or remove hazardous trees/limbs over private property. These operations will be conducted with due care not to use private property for these operations without written consent from the property owner. If there is a conflict between workers and property owners, all work will cease until the matter is resolved.

When homeowners take it upon themselves to trim limbs over their property line or cut roots within their property line of a Celebration CDD owned tree, suggest that the homeowner get professional guidance to mitigate any possible issues that might arise from improper trimming or root damage. If the homeowner persists on doing the work, it should be documented that they were offered professional assistance in the event it causes detrimental harm to the tree. It should be implied that there can be legal ramifications if due care is not taken to care for the tree.

I believe the best remedy to avoiding confrontations is educating the homeowners about the true value of the trees in the community. Based on real estate studies trees can add an average of 2% of the value of the house and property. In some instances, trees are the focal point of the property.

Underground operations:

- Trenching
- Replanting/planting
- Stump grinding
- Staking/guying

Prior to performing any underground operations, a person certified by their company needs to request underground locates, via <https://www.sunshine811.com>, by all listed companies that have underground utilities in the specified area of work. The company doing the underground operations will not start work until their underground utilities are cleared and marked. The company performing the work will receive confirmation when the utilities have been marked. If the company performing the work follows the guidelines of Sunshine 811, the company shall not be liable for damage to utility.

When a street tree must be removed or replaced for any reason, there is the possibility of damage to sidewalks and any unmarked utilities. These issues will be handled on a case-by-case basis and extra care will be taken to minimize extra cost due to these operations.

Lightning protection and Tree support systems:

These operations are specialized in nature and are not common for street trees. These operations are for saving rare species, or historic trees. Tree support systems may be recommended in areas where a large tree with a codominant stem is within a target area that is commonly occupied. Risk assessment would be recommended prior to these operations to see if it is necessary.

Lightning protection can be helpful in certain settings, same as tree support systems it is a specialized operation. It can be taken into consideration in areas like parks, open fields, or large, tall standalone trees. The purpose of lightning protection in the tree is to mitigate damage to the tree, ground a strike to mitigate side flash (lightening jumping from one tree to another object or structure), and safely ground the voltage. Both operations are covered in the ANSI A300 Part 3 BMP's as well.

Tree Risk Assessments:

Tree risk assessment is an ongoing operation due to weather events, biotic/abiotic events, and unforeseen events. When a particular tree need's assessing it should be completed by a certified assessor or TRAQ. A written report should be provided to the client and is commonly valid for one year of the assessment date. The risk assessor routinely provides mitigation strategies, but it is ultimately up to the tree manager/owners.

Note: Most certified arborist conduct risk assessment when providing maintenance to trees. If something is found to be dangerous during these operations, the maintenance manager will be notified of these findings.

Stump removal when tree replacement is required:

The cost of digging out a stump will vary by species and location. The minimum cost for a complete stump removal (dug out) is \$1000.00. In instances where perceived damage to sidewalks is immanent, those cost will be added to the bid. The bid shall also include replacement dirt, tree replacement if applicable, and debris removal.

Root excavations:

Root excavations are a specialized operation used when there are compaction issues from construction or traffic around trees. It is also used when the root system needs to be examined for tree risk assessment investigations. These are done on a case-by-case basis and based on size of the root system and/or if replacement dirt is needed.

Pest management and Disease control: Integrated pest management is the goal to mitigate using chemical means. If chemical means are necessary, it will be sub-contracted to a licensed professional.



In the event there is an infestation of any kind, it is in the best interest to use all resources available. This includes identifying insects, blights, fungus etc. County Extension services provide a great resource for identification and mitigation. Early detection is the key to stopping an outbreak of pests. In the event of a root grafting outbreak, trenching root systems may be required to stop the spread. This is a specialized underground operation and costs would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

These guidelines are exclusive to Celebration CDD.