

City of Tampa Neighborhood Tree Watch Program

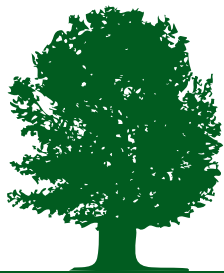
Planting and caring for trees is one of the most valuable investments we make in our community. Trees enhance property values, slow storm water runoff, clean air, shade sidewalks, streets, homes, and yards, and accentuate community identity.

The Neighborhood Tree Watch Program encourages citizens to serve as stewards to protect the trees in their neighborhoods.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Tree Watch Program is to:

- Teach citizens to identify protected tree species and grand trees.
- Provide citizens with a better understanding of Tampa's regulations and codes applicable to neighborhood trees.
- Assist in identifying violations involving the removal or trimming of protected or grand trees.
- Provide continuing education for pruning, tree biology, planting (the right tree in the right place) to associations members.

The program is administered through Tampa Homeowners, an Association of Neighborhoods (THAN) and implemented by neighborhood associations throughout Tampa.



How to Start a Neighborhood Tree Watch Program in Your Community

Tampa's Neighborhood Tree Watch Program promotes awareness of our urban forest through advocacy, education, and action.

The Neighborhood Tree Watch Program is organized just like a Neighborhood Crime Watch program. To start your Neighborhood Tree Watch Program, follow these four easy steps:

Step 1 - Recruit and organize as many volunteers as possible.

Step 2 - Designate a coordinator, who will serve as the main point of contact for your neighborhood and hold regular meetings in conjunction with your neighborhood association meetings.

Step 4 - Register your group with the City of Tampa Parks & Recreation Department, Natural Resources & Forestry Team. Call (813) 274-5164.

Step 5 - Order your Neighborhood Tree Watch sign.

No tree expertise is necessary. Volunteers will receive training from the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department that will include familiarization of the City's Landscaping, Tree Removal and Site Clearing Ordinance (Chapter 13), tree species identification, proper pruning cuts, as well as citizen and urban forestry training.

Neighborhood Tree Watch Program Registration Form

Count me in!

Please complete the form below and mail it to:

**Neighborhood Tree Watch Program
City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department
3402 West Columbus Drive
Tampa, FL 33607**

Neighborhood Name: _____

Coordinator's Name: _____

Coordinator's Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: Tampa State: FL Zip: _____

How to Report a Possible Violation

A permit is required to remove a protected tree and/or remove or trim a grand tree.

1. Determine the exact address.
2. Try to determine if the tree being pruned is a protected tree.
3. Try to determine if the tree being pruned or removed is a grand tree.
4. Does the property owner have a permit?
5. If unknown, contact the City of Tampa Construction Services Department at (813) 274-3100 to determine if the contractor has a permit.
6. If the owner does not have a permit or you cannot determine if a permit was obtained, please call the Tree Hotline at (813) 258-8733.

The Neighborhood Tree Watch Program is a program of the City of Tampa in partnership with the Tampa Homeowners, an Association of Neighborhoods (THAN).

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City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department
3402 West Columbus Drive
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 274-5158
www.tampagov.net/parksandrec

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