



# CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES

*"The Pass of the Oaks"*

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OAK TREE TRIMMING PERMIT

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Location and Description of Oak Tree(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

Pursuant to Municipal Code Ordinance No. 835, the requirements have been met and satisfied for an authorized trimming and/or removal of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Limb- Trimming/Removal; \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. in length

\_\_\_\_\_ Limb- Trimming/Removal; \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. in length

\_\_\_\_\_ Limb- Trimming/Removal; \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. in length

\_\_\_\_\_ Limb- Trimming/Removal; \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. in length

\_\_\_\_\_ Limb- Trimming/Removal; \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. in length

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**Office Use Only:**

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Recommend:

Approval     Denial

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Maintenance Division

Approved     Denied

City Council Authorization will be required

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Public Works  
or authorized representative

Paid Check # \_\_\_\_\_  
\$50.00 non-refundable fee

**PERMIT NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

# **OAK TREE PRESERVATION POLICY**

## **(ORDINANCE NO. 835)**

The City of El Paso de Robles (The Pass of the Oaks) adopted an Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance which went into effect on September 21, 2002, to maintain the heritage and character of the City. This ordinance establishes guidelines to control the treatment and removal of Oak trees, and to provide penalties for any willful act of destruction, i.e. trimming, grading, or removal without a permit.

1. "Arborist" means a person who is Certified by the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and who has specific knowledge regarding trees with the ability to determine whether such tree is diseased, and holds themselves out as able to make recommendations regarding preservation, pruning and cutting of trees and for which they receive remuneration.
2. "Bond" means a type of financial security; equivalent forms of financial security shall be subject to approval by the director.
3. "Caliper" means the diameter of a tree trunk that is taken twelve (12) inches above the ground. Caliper is a basis for measuring oak trees that are less than six (6) inches in DBH.
4. "Construction area" means any area in which movement of earth, alteration in topography, soil compaction, disruption of vegetation, change in soil chemistry, and any other change in the natural character of the land occurs as a result of site preparation, grading, building construction or any other construction activity.
5. "Critical Root Zone" (CRZ) means an area of root space that is within a circle circumscribed around the trunk of a tree using a radius of 1 foot per inch DBH, e.g. a 20-inch diameter tree has a CRZ with a radius of 20 feet as measured from the center of the tree. For trees that do not have a circular trunk, CRZ shall be calculated by measuring the circumference of the tree and dividing that number by "pi".
6. "DBH" (Diameter at breast height) means the diameter of a tree trunk measured in inches at a height of 4 ½ (four and one half) feet above the ground. If a tree splits into multiple trunks below 4 ½ feet, then the trunk is measured at its most narrow point beneath the split.
7. "Director" means the director of the Community Development Department or his/her designated representative.
8. "Oak tree" means any species of the genus "Quercus" that is native to the Paso Robles area.
9. "Monitor" is a person hired by a certified, licensed Arborist. A Monitor is required in conjunction with an approval for development of a property that contains one or more oak tree(s) or which is impacted by the CRZ of an oak on an adjacent property. The function of a monitor is to insure that grading activities are conducted in a manner consistent with the approved development plan relative to oak tree preservation issues.
10. "Permit to Prune" means a written authorization by the Director of Public Works that specifically designates the location, number, type and size of oak trees that a person has permission to prune.
11. "Permit to Remove" means a written authorization by the director or the city council that specifically designates the location, number, type and size of oak trees that a person has permission to remove.
12. "Person" means individuals, associations, corporations, public agencies, and their agents and employees.
13. "Pruning" means the removal of any dead parts of a tree, and/or normal seasonal maintenance shaping or thinning of a tree necessary to its health, growth and view maintenance. The intent is to clean the crown of the tree and enhance the tree's structural strength. Foliage reduction shall not exceed one quarter of the total tree foliage.