

## **Sequence of Events for Property Owners Required to Comply With Forest Conservation and/or Tree-Save Plans**

### **Pre-Construction**

1. An on-site pre-construction meeting is required after the limits of disturbance have been staked and flagged, but before any clearing or grading begins. The property owner should contact the Montgomery County Planning Department inspection staff before construction to verify the limits of disturbance and discuss tree protection and tree care measures. The developer's representative, construction superintendent, ISA certified arborist or Maryland-licensed tree expert that will implement the tree protection measures, forest conservation inspector, and Department of Permitting Services (DPS) sediment control inspector should attend this pre-construction meeting.
2. No clearing or grading shall begin before stress-reduction measures have been implemented. Appropriate measures may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Root pruning
  - b. Crown reduction or pruning
  - c. Watering
  - d. Fertilizing
  - e. Vertical mulching
  - f. Root aeration mattingMeasures not specified on the forest conservation plan may be required as determined by the forest conservation inspector in coordination with the arborist.
3. A Maryland-licensed tree expert or an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist must perform all stress reduction measures. Documentation of stress reduction measures must be either observed by the forest conservation inspector or sent to the inspector at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The forest conservation inspector will determine the exact method to convey the stress reductions measures during the pre-construction meeting.
4. Temporary tree protection devices shall be installed per the Forest Conservation Plan/Tree Save Plan and prior to any construction activities. Tree protection fencing locations should be staked prior to the pre-construction meeting. The forest conservation inspector, in coordination with the DPS sediment control inspector, may make field adjustments to increase the survivability of trees and forest shown as saved on the approved plan. Temporary tree protect devices may include:
  - a. Chain link fence (four feet high)

- b. Super silt fence with wire strung between support poles (minimum 4 feet high) with high visibility flagging.
  - c. 14 gauge 2 inch x 4 inch welded wire fencing supported by steel T-bar posts (minimum 4 feet high) with high visibility flagging.
5. Temporary protection devices shall be maintained and installed by the contractor for the duration of construction project and must not be altered without prior approval from the forest conservation inspector. No equipment, trucks, materials, or debris may be stored within the tree protection fence areas during the entire construction project. No vehicle or equipment access to the fenced area will be permitted. Tree protection shall not be removed without prior approval of forest conservation inspector.
6. Forest retention area signs shall be installed as required by the forest conservation inspector, or as shown on the approved plan.
7. Long-term protection devices will be installed per the Forest Conservation Plan/Tree Save Plan and attached details. Installation will occur at the appropriate time during the construction project. Refer to the plan drawing for long-term protection measures to be installed.

### **During Construction**

8. Periodic inspections by the forest conservation inspector will occur during the construction project. Corrections and repairs to all tree protection devices, as determined by the forest conservation inspector, must be made within the timeframe established by the inspector.

### **Post-Construction**

9. After construction is completed, an inspection shall be requested. Corrective measures may include:
  - a. Removal and replacement of dead and dying trees
  - b. Pruning of dead or declining limbs
  - c. Soil aeration
  - d. Fertilization
  - e. Watering
  - f. Wound repair
  - g. Clean up of retention areas
10. After inspection and completion of corrective measures have been undertaken, all temporary protection devices shall be removed from the site. Removal of tree protection devices that also operate for erosion and sediment control must be coordinated with both the Department of Permitting Services and the forest

conservation inspector. No additional grading, sodding, or burial may take place after the tree protection fencing is removed.