

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY  
LAND CLEARING APPLICATION**

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT NAME & NUMBER ASSIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. **Applicant/Agent Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Location where the proposed activity will occur:**

Tax Parcel I.D. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Reason(s) for clearing [check appropriate reason(s)]:**

\_\_\_\_\_ The land clearing or grubbing is necessary in order to make site improvements authorized by an approved site plan, subdivision approval, or land development permit and the area to be cleared is the minimum necessary for such work.

\_\_\_\_\_ In the event the aforementioned approvals are not required bylaw, the proposed clearing is the necessary for the proposed use or improvement.

Specify proposed use: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. **Erosion Control Plan:**

Please describe briefly the method(s) to be used in controlling erosion that may be expected to occur as a result of the proposed clearing or grubbing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. **Person or Company to be responsible for land clearing:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Method of debris disposal (check appropriate method):**

- Debris to be removed to an approved disposal facility.
- Debris to be burned with an air curtain incinerator in accordance with Indian River Environmental Health Department permit.

**7. Date the clearing is proposed to begin:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date the clearing is proposed to be complete:** \_\_\_\_\_

THE APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO DESIRES TO UNDERTAKE THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY, HOWEVER, THE APPLICATION MAY BE SIGNED BY A DULY AUTHORIZED AGENT IF ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT BY THAT PERSON DESIGNATING THE AGENT AND AGREEING TO FURNISH UPON REQUEST, SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am familiar with Chapter 927 (Tree Protection and Land Clearing) of the Land Development Regulations of Indian River County and that the information contained within this application, to the best of my knowledge and belief, is true complete and accurate. I agree to provide any additional information/data that may be necessary to fully process this application. I also agree to provide entry to the project site for inspectors from the Indian River County Planning and Development Division of an authorized agent for Indian River County Planning and Development Division for the purposed of allowing preliminary analysis of the site and for any subsequent monitoring of the project as may be required. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the proposed activities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The following information is required for application completeness. Please check that the attachments are submitted to ensure prompt processing of your application.

- Location Map**
- Tree Survey and/or Aerial**
- Deed of Ownership**

**LAND CLEARING PERMIT FEE (cash, or check payable to "Indian River County"):**

- INDIVIDUAL SINGLE-FAMILY LOT OR PARCEL: \$50.00
- SITE PLAN, SUBDIVISION (INCLUDING AFFIDAVITS OF EXEMPTION), OR PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: \$120.00

**\*\*\* PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THERE IS A 3-4 WEEK PROCESSING TIME ON ALL LAND CLEARING APPLICATIONS\*\*\***

**OFFICE USE**

Application Complete \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

## **WHEN IS A TREE REMOVAL PERMIT REQUIRED FOR SINGLE FAMILY LOT DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY?**

A tree removal permit is not required if any of the following conditions are met:

- The lot is ¼ acre (10,890 square feet) or less in size
- The lot is one acre or less in size *and* is homesteaded
- The lot is 1/3 acre (14,520 square feet) or less in size *and* does not have public water *or* sewer available
- No tree(s) will be removed
- Tree(s) to be removed are less than 4" in diameter at breast height (*dbh*)
- Tree(s) to be removed are within 10 feet of a house (and attached structures)
- Tree(s) to be removed are dead, diseased or damaged beyond saving
- Tree(s) to be removed are nuisance invasive species (e.g., Brazilian pepper, Australian pine, Melaleuca)
- Tree(s) to be removed are citrus trees

## **WHEN IS A LAND CLEARING PERMIT REQUIRED FOR SINGLE FAMILY LOT DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY?**

A land clearing permit is not required if:

- The lot is less than or equal to one acre in size (43,560 sq. ft.) **or**
- Development of the lot does not require the removal of any living rooted vegetation (i.e. trees, shrubs, grass, brush)

### **DO YOU HAVE THE NECESSARY PERMITS FOR YOUR PROPERTY?**

If not, you could experience costly delays. Avoid this by starting out right and checking with the St. Johns River Water Management District to determine what permits you may need. If a permit is required for your project, you must obtain it before you start clearing the land.

The St. Johns River Water Management District regulates construction of drainage systems, stormwater treatment ponds, large uses of water and other types of projects in order to protect the state's water resources and the rights of existing water users.

### **WHO NEEDS A PERMIT?**

Most probably you do if:

- \* **You are building any commercial development, including additions.**
- \* **Your project is a residential/subdivision development, including additions.**
- \* **The project involves any dredging, drainage, or filling of wetlands.**
- \* **Your project includes any ditches, dikes, or other major drainage improvements.**
- \* **You have any agricultural or industrial discharges into surface waters.**
- \* **Your project includes any bridge construction or roads.**
- \* **You are building a public supply well.**

This is only a general overview of projects, which may require District permits. Our Applicant's Handbooks and Rules further define these thresholds and are available by calling the district.

**REMEMBER** - you need to find out about what permits you are going to need before you start **CLEARING THE LAND**.

You may call any of the following District field office to determine if a permit is needed: **St. Johns River Water Management District (321) 984-4940 – Palm Bay Office**

### **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**ATTENTION: STATE PERMITS MAY BE REQUIRED FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.** This fact sheet has been developed to assist property owners by providing information on permit requirements and the agencies to contact for further information.

Many properties in Indian River County include areas of wetlands. Before proceeding with any work in or near a wetland or waterbody, it is advised that your check with the agencies listed below. You may be required to obtain permits from local, state and federal agencies. Unauthorized wetland alterations may result in agency enforcement actions requiring site restoration and payment of civil penalties.

Wetlands are a valuable resource that are protected by federal, state and in some cases, local regulation. Wetlands provide important economic and recreational values that are damaged by uncontrolled development and alteration. Wetlands filter pollutants from stormwater runoff. They protect shorelines from erosion and provide flood storage. Wetlands are nurseries for fish and shellfish and provide critical habitat to wildlife.

Vegetation, soils and hydrology are the major factors in determining if an area is considered a wetland. The following may be an indication of the presence of wetlands:

- \* **Standing water after rain.**
- \* **Adjacent waterbodies such as creeks, rivers, lakes and bays.**
- \* **Ditches which connect to any waterbodies.**
- \* **Dark mucky soils.**
- \* **Plants such as cypress, mangrove, red maple, loblolly bay, willow, sweet bay, water oak, ash, dahoon holly, tupelo, ferns, rushes, sedges, and many types of grasses.**
- \* **Swollen tree bases.**
- \* **Floodplains.**

These indicators are only a guide. You may still have wetlands even though you do not have any of the conditions listed above. Wetlands generally do not include longleaf or slash pine flatwoods with an understory of saw palmetto.

Activities in or near wetlands that may require a permit or site evaluation include:

- \* **Clearing or grading.**
- \* **Dredging or excavating.**
- \* **Filling, the placement of sand, soil, debris or structures.**
- \* **Septic system installations.**
- \* **Boat docks or ramps.**
- \* **Boardwalks.**
- \* **Seawalls or revetments.**
- \* **Mangrove trimming.**

The following agencies regulate activities within wetlands in Indian River County and should be contacted for further information:

**Indian River County (772) 226-1518**

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection – DEP  
(407) 897-4100 – Central District Office**

**St. Johns River Water Management District  
(321) 984-4940 – Palm Bay Office**

**U. S. Army Corps of Engineers - ACOE  
(904) 232-2234**