

Native Species Best Practice Research

West Palm beach Sec. 94-445

Plant species . A minimum of 60 percent of plant material added shall be Florida native or drought tolerant species selected from the city list or the list of species in the most recent edition of South Florida Water Management District Waterwise South Florida Landscapes.

Jupiter Sec. 26-67

All development approvals, including subdivisions and plat approvals shall preserve a minimum of 25 percent of each native plant community located on the site. The preservation requirements for native upland vegetation and the preservation requirement for environmentally sensitive lands shall be calculated and applied separately for each parcel. Preference shall be given to preserving environmentally sensitive lands.

Manalapan Sec. 157.83

A minimum of fifty (50) percent of all trees required to be planted on the site shall belong to native species as set forth in the approved plant list on file with the Director.

Shrubs and hedges. A minimum of fifty (50) percent of all shrubs and hedges required to be planted on the site shall belong to the native species as set forth in the approved plant list on file with the Director.

Royal palm Sec. 15-143

A minimum of fifty (50) percent of all trees required to be planted on the site shall belong to native species as set forth in the approved plant list on file with the department.

Shrubs and hedges. A minimum of fifty (50) percent of all shrubs and hedges required to be planted on the site shall belong to the native or drought tolerant species as set forth in the approved plant list on file with the department.

SAMPLE OF TREE REQUIREMENTS – LOCAL LANDSCAPE CODES

West Palm Beach, FL

“Single-family dwelling units. For single-family and duplex dwelling units, at least one shade or flowering tree shall be planted for each 1,000 square feet of open space or portion thereof. At least one shrub shall be planted for each 500 square feet of open space or portion thereof. Front yards shall be landscaped to meet the requirements of [section 94-482\(a\)](#).” 94-442

“*Substitution of palm trees.* Palm trees may be substituted for not more than 35 percent of the *shade* or flowering trees required by this article. However, when palm trees are substituted for *shade* trees, three palm trees shall be provided for each required *shade tree*. This 3:1 substitution shall not be required for Royal Palm Trees (*Roystonea* spp.), Senegal Date Palm (*Phoenix reclinata*), Medjool Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*), Bismarck Palm (*Bismarckia nobilis*), and Silver Date Palm (*Phoenix sylvestris*).” 94-442

Palm Beach County, FL

Urban/Suburban Tier: Minimum number: 1 tree per 1,250 sq. ft. of lot size (maximum 15). Minimum height: 12 ft., 2.5” caliper. Palms may not be used in excess of 25% of the total number of required trees. Three palms are required as replacement for one tree. Minimum number of species: 2 (greater number of trees = greater number of species). (Article 7, Chapter C – ULDR)

Boca Raton, FL

“Trees shall be planted at a density of 1 tree per 1,250 square feet of open space provided.” 28-1247

Manalapan, FL

“*Single family.* Each parcel shall contain a minimum of one (1) shade tree and ten (10) shrubs per one thousand (1,000) square feet of lot area or portion thereof, which is not utilized for structures or vehicular use areas. Three (3) palm trees clustered may be substituted in lieu of a shade tree. However, in no case shall palm tree clusters be used to reduce the number of shade trees to less than fifty percent (50%) of the total number of required shade trees on any lot or portion thereof.” 157.75

“F) *Tree species mix.* When ten (10) or more trees are required to be planted to meet the standards of this section, a mix of species shall be provided. The number of species to be planted shall vary according to the overall number of trees required to be planted. The minimum number of species to be planted is indicated in the table hereinbelow. Species shall be planted in proportion to the required mix. This species mix standard shall not apply to areas of vegetation required to be preserved

<i>Required # of Trees</i>	<i>Minimum # of Species</i>
10-15	2
16-25	3
26-35	4

36+	5
-----	---

" 157.75

Naples, FL

No shade tree requirements

Wellington, FL

"Trees. One (1) tree shall be planted or preserved for every one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet of the gross lot area, excluding areas of vegetation required to be preserved by Section 7.4 and areas left to be undisturbed. Credit for existing trees will be given in accord with [Section 7.3.7](#). The minimum tree and shrub planting standard is exclusive of trees, shrubs or hedges required to be planted in perimeter buffers, however, trees preserved in open common spaces shall receive a credit against the landscape area requirements." 7.3.6

Gulfstream, FL

"The landscape architectural standards have been developed to reinforce the overall character and the image of the town environment.

(C)The correct selection of plant material:

(4)Provides *shade*."70-146

Jupiter, FL

"Promote energy conservation through the creation of shade and reduce heat gain in and on buildings or paved areas;" 23-2

"Plant materials. A minimum of one shade tree, 12 to 14 feet in height, three palm trees, eight to 12 feet of clear trunk, or three accent trees, six to ten feet in height shall be provided for every 250 square feet of foundation planting. Additional plant material such as a combination of mass plantings of shrubs, a minimum of two to three feet in height, or mass plantings of groundcover, a minimum of one-half foot up to two feet in height, and/or accent plants shall also be required to provide a foundation for the building, accent architectural features, and reduce the scale of a building." 23-62

"No more than 50 percent of the total trees required or proposed on-site may be palms (all species). Fifty percent or more shall be native plant material as recognized by the Xeriscape Plant Material Guide I or II, published by the South Florida Water Management District."23-86

Palm Beach Gardens, FL

"Minimum requirements for single-family and duplex residences. Single-family and duplex lots will have a minimum of one tree or two palms and six shrubs per 1,000 square feet of open space or fraction

thereof. A shade tree from the city's preferred tree list is required as a street tree, located within the road right-of-way or within 15 feet of the property line. Street trees are to be replaced if removed for any reason by the landowner." 78-314

Delray, FL

"One shade tree shall be planted for every 2,500 square feet of lot area. Shade trees for single family residences shall be a minimum of 12 feet in height with a five-foot spread at the time of installation. Existing trees preserved on the site with the same specifications as above, may be credited toward this tree requirement" 4.6.16 (H)

MUNICIPAL/COUNTY NATIVE VEGETATION REQUIREMENTS

Beth Dowdle

Brevard - 50% Native vegetation required

- Satisfaction of the landscaping standards shall be achieved through the preservation of existing native vegetation to the greatest extent feasible. When the minimum landscaping standards cannot be achieved through preservation, plantings of new vegetation shall be required to meet the standards.

Dade County - 30% Native vegetation required

Indian River County - 50% Native vegetation required

- Minimum number of species diversity required
- Wide planted buffers between commercial properties & along roadways

Islamorada - 75% Native vegetation required

- The director of planning and development services may reduce the height requirement 50 percent for rare native plant species.

Key Colony Beach - 50% Native vegetation or xeriscape vegetation required

Key West - 70% Native vegetation required

- The natural landscape of the site shall be preserved as much as possible.
- Prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for a new development, the owner/applicant shall remove all nuisance and Invasive vegetation from the site for which a development order or permit is requested.
- The clearing of native vegetation sufficient to create the required landscape screening or portion thereof is prohibited without approval from the city
- Credit shall be granted for trees which are preserved on a site and which meet the tree requirements of any landscaping section of this division

Lee County - 75% Native vegetation required for tree species; 50% Native vegetation required for shrub and groundcover species

Manatee County - 30% Native vegetation required

- Residential Street Trees: Existing native trees should be used to fulfill ordinance requirements when feasible
- Preserve native plant communities is encouraged and required as appropriate
- Right plant in the right place for soil conditions
- Plantings in required landscape areas shall be with plant species that are native and/or naturalized to Florida. All required landscape areas shall retain existing native trees, shrubs, groundcover and grasses to the greatest extent possible. Native plant species typical to the vegetative communities found in non-coastal Manatee County shall be encouraged.

Marathon - 70% Native vegetation required Martin County – 50% Native vegetation required

Monroe County – 70% Native vegetation required

Miami - 30% Native vegetation required

- The right plant in the right place for dry and wet soils
- Reduce negative impact of exotic pest plant species
- Prohibit use of noxious exotic plants which invade native plant communities
- Maximum size of turfgrass lawn area
- One native plant per square foot in retention/detention areas

Ocoee – 40% Native tree required; 40% Native shrubs and groundcover required.

Pasco County – 30% Native vegetation required.

Polk County - Recommends native vegetation and includes native vegetation on the recommended plant list

St. Lucie County - 50% Native vegetation or waterwise landscape required

- Existing, native trees, vegetation and other natural features shall be preserved to the extent practicable.
- Residential: 100% of the planted trees shall consist of native species or waterwise vegetation
- Agriculture/horticulture buildings: 100% of the planted trees shall consist of native species
- Large scale residential and commercial: A minimum of 15% of any existing native upland habitat on the property must be preserved in its natural condition as part of the required 35 percent common open space. For each acre of preserved native habitat above the required minimum 15 percent that is preserved in its original state, credit shall be given at a rate of 150 percent per acre towards the remaining common open space requirement.
- Planned Unit Developments: A minimum of 50% of any existing native upland habitat on the property must be preserved in its natural condition as part of the required open space. For each acre of preserved native habitat above the required minimum 50% that is preserved in its original state, credit shall be given at a rate of 150% per acre towards the remaining open space requirement.
- The preservation of existing native vegetation shall be required where the location of said vegetation is not in conflict with the proposed building or parking areas.