

**Devon Hills Homeowners Association**  
**Common Area Tree Falling and Removal Policy**

**May 2024**

The purpose of the Devon Hills HOA Tree Removal policy is the establishment of a standard for the review of tree removal requests from Devon Hills homeowners.

**This policy supersedes any previous policies or motions passed by previous Boards.**

I. **Communication.** Homeowners notify the management company if they have concerns about trees in the Devon Hills Common Area. Photos should be provided, along with the homeowner's address and a brief description of the concern.

II. **Arborist Consultation & Fees.**

A. Trees in the common area identified by homeowners and/or board members as having the potential to be a safety hazard (potential for personal injury if it fell) will first be evaluated by the management company representative to determine if it a threat to personal injury. If the homeowner or Board member is not in agreement with the Management Company's decision an independent certified arborist (arborist) to will be engaged determine the health of the tree and whether it would be a potential for personal injury if it were to fall on the home.

B. Evaluation by the independent arborist shall be scheduled by the Management Company within 30 days at a time convenient to both the arborist and the homeowner.

C. Tree removal companies shall not be consulted for the determination of the health of the tree or the need for removal.

**III. Arborist Evaluation.** If the arborist determines a tree is diseased or does not have a strong enough root system to sustain the tree, the association may contract to have the tree cut and felled if determined to be safety hazard at the expense of the Devon Hills HOA.

**IV. Tree Removal** - The removal of the tree is an additional expense, and the HOA will take into consideration if the tree is in a landscaped part of the common area, as opposed to the more natural wooded common area. Tree removal is at the discretion of the board.

**V. Healthy Trees.** For a tree determined by an arborist to not be diseased and to have strong roots, trunk, and leaf canopy and where homeowner remains concerned of tree falling and causing damage, homeowner may request permission from the board to cut down the tree. The homeowner shall be responsible for all costs related to the cutting and felling of the tree. If the homeowner also wants to pay for tree removal, a full plan for extracting the felled tree shall be submitted to the board for consideration.