

TBL Tree Replacement Guide

Guide to tree replacement in TBL These are suggestions but not limited to:

- replacement tree must be 25% of the current height of the tree that is being removed
- Palm Beach County code states that a hardwood is allowed to be replaced with a trio of palms or canopy
- ARC Approval is needed prior to replacing or removing any trees**

The term **hardwood tree** is a botanical grouping of trees with similar characteristics. Hardwood tree characteristics apply to many of the tree species in this country. The trees have broad leaves rather than needle-like leaves. They produce a fruit or nut, and often go dormant in the winter.

Trees that can replace hardwood:

- Little Gem Magnolia
- Crepe Myrtle
- Christmas Triple Palms
- Robellini Triple Palms
- Pigeon plum
- Silver Buttonwood
- Geiger Tree
- Cassia Surattensis
- Hong Kong orchid tree
- Crabwood
- Clusia Tree
- Autograph Tree
- Pitch Apple Tree

Trees that can replace Oaks:

- Fox Tail Palm
- Royal Palms

Some trees you may want to avoid due to our lot size and are least wind resistant:

- Ironwood: Canopy grows to about 40 to 50 feet.
- Live Oak: The roots need room to spread, and it can become unstable if planted on residential properties with small yards.
- Ficus: Shallow roots and topple easy.
- Laurel Oak: Can reach 70 feet.
- Mahogany: They are brittle and break easy. Also can grow to 70 Ft.

Design and Manage Communities for Wind Resistance

Design the *Right Place*



Trees growing in groups survive hurricane winds better than trees planted individually.

Researchers who visited post-hurricane sites found that many tree failures could have been prevented with good design. The most important design element that is often overlooked is having enough soil space for tree roots to grow. To provide anchorage

for the tree, roots need to spread beyond the edge of the canopy and grow deep into the soil. Both homeowners and community planners should make sure there is space for tree growth when choosing to plant large maturing trees.

Provide space for growth

- Plant trees in soil spaces according to their mature size:
 - large trees: at least 30 feet x 30 feet.
 - medium trees: at least 20 feet x 20 feet.
 - small trees: at least 10 feet x 10 feet.
- Soil should have plenty of open surface space to allow growth of trunk and main flare roots.
- Ideally, soil should be well drained to allow roots to grow at least 3 feet deep to anchor trees.
- Group trees together in large spaces rather than individually in many small spaces.
- Do not plant right next to a house, wall or any other structure.

Select the *Right Tree*

Choose trees that resist decay and therefore recover well from wind damage. Small maturing trees (30 feet at maximum height) are often a better choice for areas where there is not enough soil space for large maturing trees.

Make sure trees are adapted to local site conditions, such as dry versus wet soils. See *Wind Resistant Tree Species* (page 12) for a list of trees to plant. For more information on selecting trees for Florida and southeast U.S. go to <http://orb.at.ufl.edu/FloridaTrees>.



Small maturing trees are nicely suited for this site because of overhead power lines and small soil space.

Consider small maturing trees

- When planting near power lines.
- When planting within 10 feet of curbing, building or any other obstruction.
- When the space is inadequate for root growth or the soil is shallow, compacted or poorly drained. Large trees can blow over due to shallow roots.

