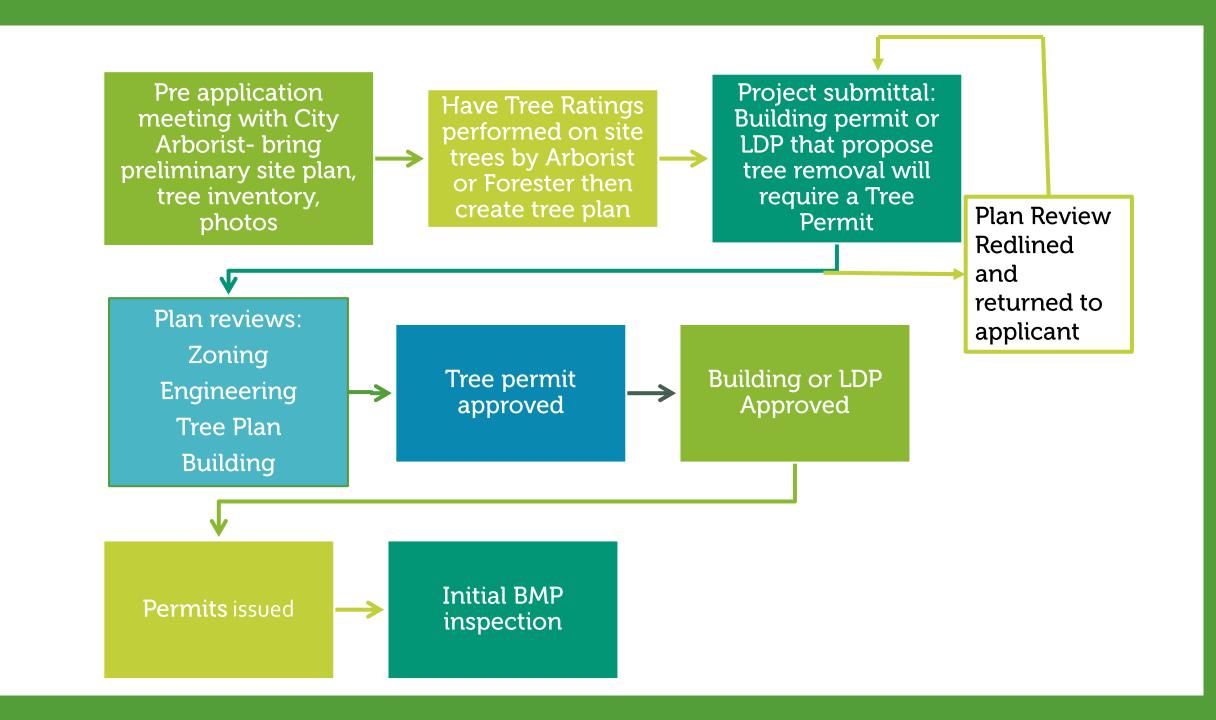


## Section 9.1 Tree Canopy Conservation

Kay Evanovich City Arborist



# All tree forms and information will be available at: Decaturga.com/trees

#### TREE ORDINANCE CHECK LIST for Construction Projects

Design, Environment & Construction 2635 Talley St. Decatur, Georgia 3 Phone: 770-686-6279



NO trees are to be impacted more than 20% of the critical root zone during any project without prior approval from the City Arborists of a prescription from a certified Arborist:

- A pre application Conference with the City Arborist is required before any project submittal Contact <u>Navewanovchedeactures conference.</u> Conference Son Ped Wednesday and Thursday each week between 9.00am and 4.00pm. Preliminary drawings or surveys with tree locations and photos are suggested for conference.
- A Tree Conservation Plan must be submitted with all Land Disturbance and Building Permit applications for any proposed improvement or project that that would alter soils within the critical root zone of any protected tree if the project proposes removal of tree's a separate tree removal permit, tree ratings sheet, Tree Canopy loss fee and Tree conservation plan is required.
- A Canopy loss fee will be assessed and is based on the amount of yearly tree benefit lost per Fair or higher rated protected tree removed. Please visit the National Tree Benefit calculator at: http://www.treebenefits.com to determine the monetary amount. Then use the following formula: the provided of the paid to the tree bank.
- Show how the the site design includes rooftop solar voltaic panels or green infrastructure practices and no additional trees are removed to install them for a 50% reduction in Canopy loss fee (see Administrative standards section VIII. 3).
- No Land Disturbance or Building Permit shall be issued without an approved Tree Conservation Plan unless the City Arborist has approved a No Tree Impact Statement.
- A Tree Conservation Plan must be prepared and certified by a Registered Forester, Registered Landscape architect, or Certified Arborist.
- Tree Ratings shall be done by a Certified Arborist or a Registered Forester.
- the discharge in the prospective that is active the discharge action probabilities and the extension of the between a copy over action becomes force in the conlights between a copy accountable for extension or continuous action of a conbination makes the action to the first belief to higher by, cancellocated action probabilities and a continuous action action or consistent and action actions are consistent as a continuous of the observation of action of the state of the conaction.
- For properties zoned R-85, R-60 and R-50 that require a land disturbance permit or where impervious area is increased, no less than 75% of the existing tree canopy cover from trees in fair or better-rated condition shall be conserved.
- For properties zoned RS-17, RM-18, RM-22, RM-43, PO. C-1,C-2, C-3, MU, NMU, and 1. -a minimum of 45% tree canopy cover from trees in fair or better-rated condition shall be required on public and private properties and where those require a land disturbance permit or where impervious area is increased, a minimum of 50% of the existing tree canopy cover from trees in fair or better-rated condition shall be consequent.
- All tree canopy from Landmark trees (Sec. 9.1.15) shall be conserved
- Planting of replacement trees is required to maintain no net loss of tree canopy, including at least one tree
  planted in the front yard of the property or in an adjacent public right-of-way. Exceptions may be made

ity of Decature					Public Works Depa 2635 Talle Decatur, Georgia 770-68
ary or Decarur	,				Kay.evanovich@decatur
APPLICAT	ION FO		RMIT TO REMOVE DEAD, I es at least 6" in diameter require a Tree		ZARDOUS TREES
*Date:					
*Street Address:				City	*Zip:
ubmitting this applic	ation. Pi	cture	i) including the areas or parts s will facilitate a faster respo	nse time.	
rees, structures, etc. ame on the site plan	, private and elec	arbo	more than 6 trees, the follow rist report, and electronic sp c spreadsheet list for cross-r	readsheet. Tree eferencing.	
Submit requests by:	Email Online	-	Kay.evanovich@Decaturga.com	m	
	Unline				
Property Owner Informati	on:				
*Owner's Name:					
*Owner's Email:				*Phone:	
* Arborist:				•	
*Company Name:					
* Email:				*Phone:	
				•	
Tree #1:			Canopy Sqft	Total Property	
*Species:			ergreen□ Hardwood □ Species,	if known:	Diameter(in.):
*Tree will be marked:			int  Ribbon Tape Other:		
*Pictures submitted: *Tree location as view from street. (e.g., front r		⊔ Ye	s 🗆 No If no, submit pictures to	schedule and as:	sess trees using pictures.
backleft) Reason for removal:		□ De	ad 🗆 Diseased 🗆 Moderate or I	nigher risk with ta	rget present Describe:
Tree #2:		Tree (	Canopy Sqft		
*Species:			ergreen 🗆 Hardwood 🗆 Species	, if known:	Diameter(in.):
*Tree will be marked:		□ Pa	int 🗆 Ribbon 🗆 Tape 🗀 Other:		
*Pictures submitted:	I	☐ Ye	s 🗆 No If no, submit pictures to	schedule and as	sess trees using pictures.
*Tree location as view from street. (e.g., front r back left)					
Reason for removal:		□ De	ad   Diseased   Moderate or I	nigher risk with ta	rget present Describe:
	Call 770-6	86-627	79 for questions or if results are not	received after (2) tw	ro weeks. on results are mailed via USPS

Tree Rating Guide Sheet



The Tree Rating Guide is to be used by Certified Arborists or Registered Foresters only. They should rate trees based on species rating, which includes the species rating guide condition, and yearly benefit mount which utilizes size. The Arborist or Porester should also assess the sites trees and their existing soils. Then a determination is made that the

	Роот	Fair	Good	Hig
Zone 7 Rating:				
Overstory:	0-49	50-64	65-80	81-100
Understory:	0-15	16-35	36-55	56-100
Condition:	uncorrectable major defects	correctable defects	minor correctable defects	na know defects
Yearly Benefits:				
Overstory	\$0.00-70.00	\$71.00-165.00	\$166.00-186.00	\$187.0
Markettan.	20.00 10.00	611.00 14.00	648.00.20.00	601.00

Tree #	Species	DBH	Canopy sqft#	Rating

Topic	Revised Ordinance – Effective 3-21-22	Requirements:
Tree Removal	Property owners may remove dead, untreatably diseased or hazardous trees with a Tree Removal Permit. (Section 9.1.16) On SF residential properties, tree planting is required to maintain no net loss of tree canopy (9.1.5).  Tree removal permit is required on any project that proposes to remove trees in addition to building or land development permits	Must have a certified Arborist tree risk assessment form for Moderate or higher risk trees with a target present.  Must provide report and photograph of tree condition to City Arborist.  For Building and Development sites a tree rating sheet must be provided with a tree plan for tree permit submittals
Pre-Permit Conference	A conference with the City Arborist is required prior to the submittal of a Tree Conservation Plan or an application for a Land Disturbance or Building Permit for any proposed improvement or project that could result in tree disturbance, removal, or alteration of soils in the CRZ of any protected tree. (9.1.16.B.3). Please bring site plans, conceptual plans, tree or land surveys, tree ratings or assessments by an Arborist or Forester, photographs needed to determine ability to comply with the tree ordinance.	A pre-application conference is completed and documented via submittal of a written alternatives analysis, and a complete application is received; In the event canopy on the site is below minimum canopy requirements, a binding, legally enforceable tree planting plan is made a condition of the permit, to bring the site into compliance with minimum canopy requirements
Canopy Coverage	Canopy coverage is limited to trees located on applicant's property, boundary trees on property line, and trees located on public property or public rights-of-way. (9.1.4.B) <b>Trees greater than 4 inches DBH, with the exception of invasive and non-native, flowering ornamental species, that are rated fair or better shall be eligible for tree canopy cover credit.</b>	Where trees exit the ground determines ownership if the trunk base and root flair cross a property line that makes them a shared ownership boundary tree.  Both owners must agree in writing to the removal or impaction to the tree. You may only claim the canopy over your lot from those trees
Canopy Goal	Citywide canopy goal increased to 65%. (9.1.1.B)	This is an aspirational goal we hope to achieve through conservation and planting.

Topic	Revised Ordinance – Effective 3-21-22	Requirements:
Land Disturbance and Grading	Land disturbance and grading on single-family residential properties (R-50, R-60, & R-85) limited to 125% of total lot coverage permitted by zoning regulations (9.1.13.B)	Disturbance limit includes lot prep grading for sod.  All proposed ground disturbance must be shown on the plans
Tree Rating	Trees are rated Poor/Fair/Good/High. Poor-rated trees receive no canopy credit. (9.1.4.B) Vine covered trees cannot be counted unless vines are cut and will be removed through prescriptive measures.	See the Rating Guide in the administrative standards section. Only a certified Arborist or registered Forester can perform tree ratings.  Tree rating sheets are available
Single-Family Residential Requirements: R-85, R-60 and R-50.	Single-family residential properties required to have minimum of 60% tree canopy.  All existing healthy trees greater than 4 inches DBH, with the exception of invasive and non-native, flowering ornamental species, that are rated fair or better shall be eligible for tree canopy cover credit.  Poor-rated trees shall not be eligible for tree canopy cover credit. Trees whose crown and/or trunk are adversely impacted by invasive species including but not limited to English ivy, wisteria, kudzu and other species detrimental to tree health shall receive no tree canopy cover credit until such invasive species are removed.	Conservation of at least 75% of existing tree canopy from trees in fair or better-rated condition.  Properties may satisfy up to 50% of canopy replacement requirement with a combination of green infrastructure, rooftop solar, plantings on City property, and payments to the Tree Bank. (9.1.5.D.2  The crowns of existing understory trees as defined in the Tree Species List may be credited at half their combined crown area and included in the tree canopy cover measurement
Commercial & High Density Residential Requirements: RS-17, RM- 18, RM-22, RM-43, PO, C-1, C-2, C-3, MU, NMU, and I.	High-density residential and institutional required to have a minimum of 45% cover, with conservation of 50% of existing tree canopy from trees in fair or better-rated condition.  Commercial properties must conserve all existing canopy from trees in the adjacent right-of-way.	May satisfy 50% of canopy replacement requirement with a combination of green roof systems, rooftop solar, green infrastructure, plantings on City property, and payments to Tree Bank. (9.1.5.C.2; 9.1.6.D.1)

PROPOSED CODE CALCULATIONS TABLE							
Lot Area:		9,000 sf					
Lot Coverage:	40%	3,600 sf					
Land Disturbance	125%	4,500 sf					
Buildings - 3' Construction Tolerance		500 sf					
Paivng - 1'-1.5' Construction Tolerance		400 sf					
	total	900 sf					

Land disturbance and grading on single-family residential properties (R-50, R-60, & R-85) limited to 125% of total lot coverage permitted by zoning regulations (9.1.13.B)



Topic	Revised Ordinance – Effective 3-21-22	Requirements
Protection of Landmark Trees	Property owner may request Landmark tree protection which will run with property and the tree shall not be intentionally removed, destroyed or disturbed.  (9.1.15.B)	Once determined to be a Landmark tree they must be saved in perpetuity. The preservation of a tree designated as a Landmark Tree within the buildable area of a lot shall receive 1.5 times canopy credit in the calculation of existing tree canopy if 70% of the critical root area and the entire structural root plate is undisturbed.
Canopy Credit for new trees	New large canopy trees receive partial credit for tree canopy based on 50% of canopy cover potential at maturity. Medium canopy trees receive partial credit based on 65% of potential at maturity. Small and very small canopy trees receive 80% credit. (9.1.4.D)	A minimum size of 2.5"caliper is required for all replacement trees  Must have soil volumes as shown on Table 2
Variances	9.1.18 Administrative Setback Adjustments for Tree Conservation Adjustments of 25-50% to setback requirements may be approved administratively for tree conservation. (9.1.18.A)	Minimum front, side, and rear yard setbacks for single-family residential properties may be reduced by up to 50% of the setback with the approval of the UDO Administrator where the City Arborist determines such reduction is necessary to preserve good or higher rated trees and their existing soils. Limited to one setback adjustment per property per building project in any five year period.
Canopy Loss Fee	Canopy loss fee required for reduction of community benefits by unnecessary tree removal. (9.1.12.)	A canopy loss fee shall be paid to the Tree Bank by the property owner for any protected tree that is removed.  A 50% reduction in canopy loss fee is allowed on single-family residential properties where green infrastructure is installed without tree removal. See Sec. 9.1.6.F.

Table 2. Required Minimum Open Soil Areas and Soil Volumes by Mature Tree Size

Mature Canopy Size	Minimum Open Soil Area	Minimum Soil Volume	Minimum Planting Area Width for Landscape Strips
Large	400 square feet	1,200 cubic feet	5 feet
Medium	225 square feet	675 cubic feet	4 feet
Small	100 square feet	300 cubic feet	3 feet
Very Small	36 square feet	108 cubic feet	3 feet

## Canopy Loss Fee

- A. A canopy loss fee based on benefits lost to the community shall be established for the purpose of calculating payments to the Tree Bank. See Administrative Standards section X.3.
- B. A canopy loss fee shall be paid to the Tree Bank by the property owner for any protected tree that is removed.
- C. A 50% reduction in canopy loss fee is allowed on single-family residential properties where green infrastructure is installed without tree removal. See Sec. 9.1.6.F.

## Calculating Canopy Loss Fee

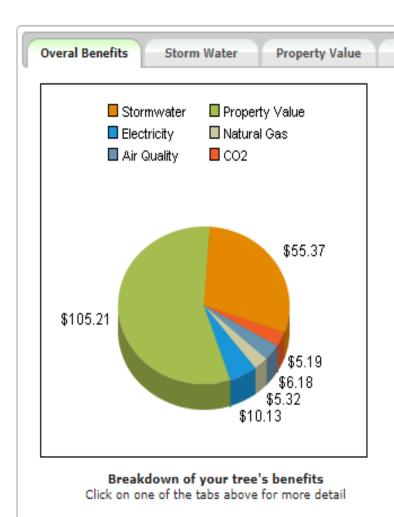
- A Canopy loss fee will be assessed and is based on the amount of yearly tree benefit lost per Fair or higher rated tree removed.
- Please visit the National Tree Benefit calculator at: <a href="http://www.treebenefits.com">http://www.treebenefits.com</a> to determine the monetary amount.
- Then use the following formula: \$ \_\_\_\_. yearly benefit amount, times 5 years = \$\_\_\_. that amount shall be paid to the tree bank.

### National Tree Benefit Calculator

Beta

Air Quality

Energy



This **20 inch White oak** provides overall benefits of: \$187 every year.

CO2

About the Model

While some functional benefits of trees are well documented, others are difficult to quantify (e.g., human social and communal health). Trees' specific geography, climate, and interactions with humans and infrastructure is highly variable and makes precise calculations that much more difficult. Given these complexities, the results presented here should be considered initial approximations—a general accounting of the benefits produced by urban street-side plantings.

Benefits of trees do not account for the costs associated with trees' long-term care and maintenance.

If this tree is cared for and grows to 25 inches, it will provide \$251 in annual benefits.



White oak Quercus alba

Topic	Revised Ordinance – Effective 3-21-22	Requirements
Affordable Housing	City Commission may grant special exceptions to canopy coverage standards for affordable housing. (9.1.2.E)	The City Commission may authorize special exceptions to the requirements of this Section when public purposes are met and such exceptions support the community goal of affordable housing. Such exceptions shall be considered for permanent, bona fide affordable housing and subject to such standards, limitations and conditions as determined by the City Commission.
Tree Maintenance Requirements	The permit holder shall be responsible for identifying both newly planted and existing trees to the property owner and for informing the property owner as to their proper maintenance and any required arboricultural tree prescriptions	.A Tree Maintenance Agreement between the permit holder and property owner to determine responsibility for maintenance and replacement shall be submitted to the City Arborist prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy and shall be included in the record set of plans for the permit.
Tree Information Portal	City Arborist shall prepare and publish quarterly reports summarizing tree removals, tree replacements, additional tree plantings, and other information needed to measure the effectiveness of the ordinance. (9.1.1.C)	City Arborist will create a report from the new Community Core permitting software.

Topic	Revised Ordinance – Effective 3-21-22	Requirements
Surface Parking Lots	New and replaced surface parking lots creating 8 or more parking spaces or any land development or redevelopment that results in the removal and replacement of 50% or more of an existing parking lot of 8 or more spaces, other than routine maintenance of the parking lot surface, shall be subject to the requirements of this Section.  (9.1.17.)	1 large or medium canopy tree is required for every 8 parking spaces.  They will be required to maintain 45% tree canopy  A minimum of 1 large or medium canopy tree shall be required for every 8 parking spaces. All landscape islands shall include at least 1 canopy tree.
Enforcement Authority	City Arborist or their designee may issue stop work orders and court citations, revoke permits, and withhold Certificate of Occupancy for violations of this Section. (9.1.20)	City Arborists designee includes 2 <sup>nd</sup> Arborist hired by City, Code Enforcement officer, and Building or Engineering Inspectors.
Legal Criteria and Protection	Protected tree" amended to include soils in critical root zone.  Definition of DDH Tree added.  Requirements of application and permitting process listed in Section 9.1.16.  9.1.13 Tree Protection Requirements	Dead, Diseased or Hazardous Tree (DDH). A tree that is dead, untreatably diseased or infested, has a moderate or higher risk of failure with a target present, or has high to extreme risk of failure that cannot be mitigated.  Land disturbance and grading on single-family residential properties (e.g.,R-85, R-60, R-50) shall be limited to no more than 125% of the total lot coverage permitted by zoning regulations

#### Arborist Report - Pre-Construction Canopy

Tree#	Species	DBH*	Rating	Mitigation	Canopy	CRZ' Dia.	Notes
1	Water Oak	36	Fair	lvy	18 50 sf	90	Cavity, vines to be removed
2	Water Oak	30	Fair	lvy	15 50 sf	76	Gandaderma, vines
3	White Ash	7	Good	lvy	250 sf	18	Vines to be removed
4	White Oak	25	Fair	Good	700 sf	62	
5	White Oak	37	Poor	Fair	2500 sf	92	With mitigation
6	American 8m	22	Fair	Fair	275 st	56	Tree on property line – 1/2 canopy credit
7	White Oak	30	Poor	Poor	2800 sf	76	Mallet negative, crack, high risk
8	White Oak	31	Poor	Poor	15 00 sf	78	No mitigation, high risk
9	White Oak	34	Good	Good	0 st	86	Boundary tree - no canopy credit
10	Mockemut Hickory	9	Good	Good	225 #	23	
п	Mockemut Hickory	8	Good	Good	225 ⊯	20	

Total Pre-Construction Canapy II,875 sf

Total Pre-Construction Canapy

Rated Fair or Better

II, III sf Lot Size

Pre-Construction Canopy % Rated

Fair or Better

#### **Tree Canopy Requirements**

6,666sf Min. Canopy Cover Required

60% of the lot area

Min. Existing Canopy Required to be Saved

No less than 75% of the existing tree canopy cover from

trees in fair or better-rated condition shall be conserved

4,300 sf

No Not Loss of Existing Trees Requirement Add up the canopy st of all existing trees removed (#7, #8)

#### Concept - Demolition

#### Concept - Existing Canopy Save d

Tree #	Species	%NetCRZ impacted	Canopy
1	WaterOak	0%	18 50 sf
2	WaterOak	0%	1550 ⊯
3	White Ash	0%	250 sf
4	White Oak	0%	700 sf
5	White Oak	0%	2500 sf
6	American elm	0%	275 sf
10	MockernutHickory	0%	225 sf
п	Mockernut Hickory	0%	225 sf
		Total	7,575 #

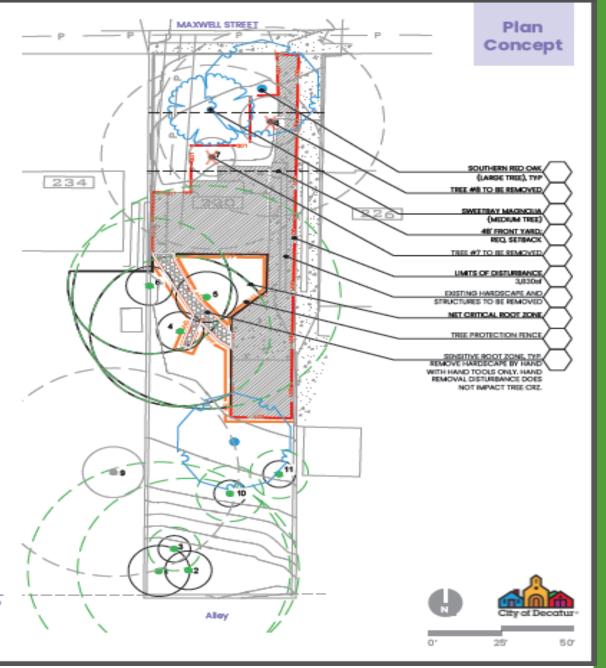
#### Concept - Proposed Canopy Replaced

Qty.	TreeSize	Proposed Canopy		
2	Large	1,600 st (800 st/ea)		
1	Medium	595 st/ea		

#### Post-Construction Canopy Calculations

7,575 sf 2,185 sf	Total Existing C anopy Saved Total Proposed Canopy Region ed To meet min. 50% no net loss require- ments on site. Remaining no net loss canopy replacement handled off-site.
9.760 sf	Total Post-Construction Canopy On-Site

2,115 sf No Net Loss Replacement Off-Site



#### Arborist Report - Pre-Construction Canopy

Tree#	Species	DBH*	Rating	Mitigation	Canopy	CRZ' Dia.	Note s
1	Water Oak	36	Fair	lvy	18 50 sf	90	Cavity, vines to be removed
2	Water Oak	30	Fair	lvy	15 50 sf	76	Gandaderma, vines
3	White Ash	7	Good	lvy	250 sf	18	Vines to be removed
4	White Oak	25	Fair	Good	700 sf	62	
5	White Oak	37	Poor	Fair	2500 sf	92	With mitigation
6	American 8m	22	Fair	Fair	275 st	56	Tree on property line - 1/2 canopy credit
7	White Oak	30	Poor	Poor	2800 sf	76	Mallet negative, crack, high risk
8	White Oak	31	Poor	Poor	15 00 sf	78	No mitigation, high risk
9	White Oak	34	Good	Good	0 st	86	Boundary tree - no canopy credit
10	Mockemut Hickory	9	Good	Good	2 25 sf	23	
п	Mockemut Hickory	8	Good	Good	225 #	20	

5,681 sf

4,525 sf

II,875 sf Total Pre-Construction Canapy

Total Pre-Construction Canopy

Rated Fair or Better

II, III sf Lot Size

7,575 #

68% Pre-Construction Canapy % Rated

Fair or Better

Total impervious are a

#### **Tree Canopy Requirements**

Min. Canopy Cover Required 60% of the lot area

Min. Existing Canopy Required to be Saved

No less than 75% of the existing tree canopy cover from trees in

fair or better-rated condition shall be conserved

No Net Loss of Existing Trees Requirement

Add up the canopy of of all existing trees removed (#7, #8, #11)

#### Concept - New Construction

#### Concept - Existing Canopy Saved

Tree#	Species	% Net CRZ impacted	Canopy
1	Water Oak	0%	1950 sf
2	Water Oak	0%	1550 sf
3	White Ash	0%	250 ⊈
4	White Oak	3.7%	700 sf
5	White Oak	4%	2500 ⊈
6	American elm	0%	275 sf
10	Mockemut Hickory	28%	225 sf
Canonyloss fee of \$260.00		Total	7,350 sf

to be paid to tree bank for loss of tree #11

#### Concept - Proposed Canopy Replaced

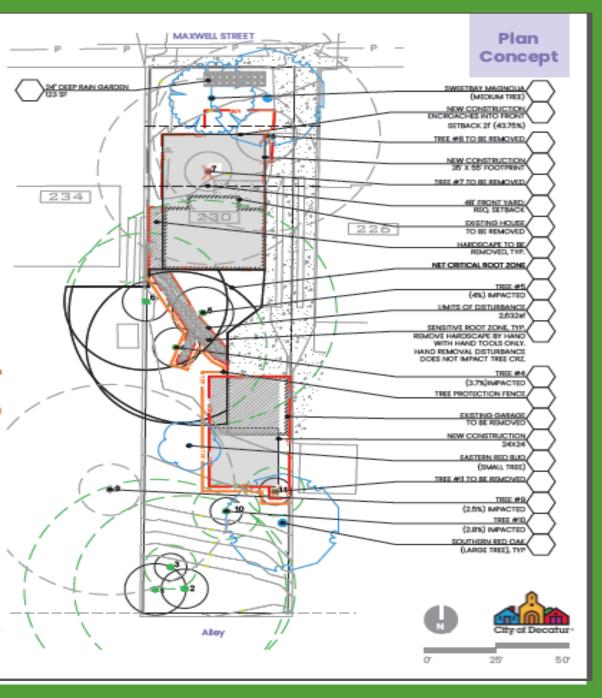
Qty.	TreeSize	Proposed Canopy
2	Large	1,600 st (800 st/ea)
1	Medium	585 sf
1	Small	320 sf

#### Post-Construction Canopy Calculations

7,350 sf Total Existing Canopy Saved 2,505 sf Total Proposed Canopy Replaced To meet min. 50% no net loss requirements on-site. Remaining no net loss met via green infrastructure on-site.

9,855 sf Total Post-Construction Canopy On-Site

2,150 sf Total Proposed Green Infrastructure rain garden implemented on-site



#### Arborist Report - Pre-Construction Canopy

Tree#	Species	DBH*	Rating	Mitigation	Canopy	CRZ' Dia.	Notes
1	Water Oak	36	Fair	lvy	18 50 sf	90	Cavity, vines to be removed
2	Water Oak	30	Fair	Ivy	15 50 sf	76	Gandaderma, vines
3	White Ash	7	Good	lvy	250 sf	18	Vines to be removed
4	White Oak	25	Fair	Good	700 sf	62	
5	White Oak	37	Poor	Fair	2500 sf	92	With mitigation
6	American Elm	22	Fair	Fair	275 #	56	Tree on property line - 1/2 canopy credit
7	White Oak	30	Poor	Poor	2800 sf	76	Mallet negative, crack, high risk
8	White Oak	31	Poor	Poor	15 00 sf	78	No mitigation, high risk
9	White Oak	34	Good	Good	0 s#	86	Boundary tree - no canopy credit
10	Mockemut Hickory	9	Good	Good	225 ⊯	23	
п	Mockemut Hickory	8	Good	Good	225 #	20	

II,875 sf Total Pre-Construction Canopy

7,575 sf Total Pre-Construction Canapy Rated Rain or Better

II,III of Lot Size

88% Pre-Construction Canopy % Rate d Fair or Better

2,569 sf Total impervious are a

Tree Canopy Requirements

6,666sf Min. Canopy Cover Required 60% of the lot area

5,681 sf Min. Existing Canopy Requ

Min. Existing Canopy Required to be Saved No less than 75% of the existing tree canopy cover from

trees in fair or better-rated condition shall be conserved

4,300 sf No Not Loss of Existing Trees Requirement

Add up the canopy of of all existing trees removed (#7, #8)

#### Concept - Renovation/Expansion

#### Concept - Existing Canopy Save d

Tree #	Species	%NetCRZ impacted	Canopy
1	WaterOak	0%	18 50 sf
2	WaterOak	0%	1550 ⊯
3	White Ash	0%	250 sf
4	White Oak	0%	700 sf
5	White Oak	0%	2500 sf
6	American elm	0%	275 sf
10	MockernutHickory	0%	225 sf
п	Mockernut Hickory	0%	225 sf
		Total	7,575 st

#### Concept - Proposed Canopy Replaced

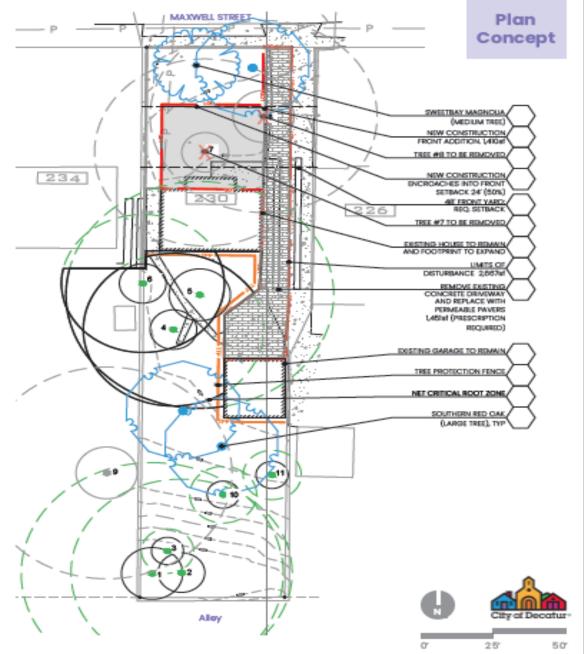
Qty.	TreeSize	Proposed Canopy	
3	Large	2,400 st (800 st/ea)	
1	Medium	595 st/ea	

#### Post-Construction Canopy Calculations

7,575 sf 2,985 sf	Total Edisting Canopy Saved Total Proposed Canopy Replaced To meet min. 50% no net loss require- ments on-site. Remaining no net loss met via green infrastructure on-site.
	and the contract of the contra

9,975 sf Total Post-Construction Canopy On-Site 1,450 sf Total Proposed Green Infrastructure

Permeable povers implemented onsite to meet remaining no net loss



#### Tree Ratings Sheet

The Tree Rating Guide is to be used by Certified Arborists or Registered Foresters only. They should rate trees based on species rating, which includes the species rating guide, condition, and yearly benefit amount which utilizes size. The Arborist or Forester should also assess the sites trees and their existing soils. Then a determination is made that the trees are:

	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	Good	<u>High</u>
Zone 7 Ratii	ng:			
Oversto	ory: 0-49	50-64	65-80	81-100
Underst	tory: 0-15	16-35	16-35 36-55	
Conditio	n: uncorrecta major defe		minor correctab defects	le no known defects
Yearly Benefits:				
Overstory	\$0.00-70.0			
Understory	\$0.00-10.0	0 \$11.00- 14.	00 \$15.00-20.	00 \$21.00
Tree #	Species	DBH	Canopy sqft#	Rating

## Tree Rating Guide Examples

Example #1: 24" White Oak, Overstory tree rating is 99, It has minor correctable defects, Natl benefits calculator: 24 inch White oak provides overall benefits of: \$238 every year.

The soils are natural existing and it is mulched, therefore the tree would receive a **High** rating. The same tree and soils with uncorrectable major defects, and a moderate Tree risk rating (target present) would make this a **Poor** tree. The same tree with limited poor soils, with correctable defects could be **Fair** if prescription is received for correction of defects, could be **Good** with added soils remediation.

**Example #2**: 10" Redbud, Understory tree rating is 67, It has minor correctable defects, Natl benefits calculator: This **10** inch Eastern redbud provides overall benefits of: \$25 every year.

The soils are natural existing and it is mulched, therefore the tree would receive a High rating.

The same tree and soils with uncorrectable major defects would make this a **Poor** tree, with correctable defects it could be a **Good** tree with a prescription for pruning.

The same tree with limited poor soils, with correctable defects could be **Fair** if prescription received for correction of defects, could be **Good** with added soil remediation as well.

## Tree Removal Permits

- A Tree Removal Permit is required for any removal or disturbance of a protected tree located on all public and private properties for which a Building Permit or Land Disturbance Permit is required. Tree planting required to achieve no net loss of canopy.
- Protected tree. Any tree that is 6 inches DBH or greater that is structurally sound; any tree that has been planted or conserved to comply with this Section regardless of size, any tree planted on public or private property using Tree Bank funds and any tree planted pursuant to Sec. 9.1.9. Trees listed on the GA EPPC Invasive Species List, Category 1shall not be considered protected trees (<a href="https://www.gaeppc.org/list/">https://www.gaeppc.org/list/</a>)

## DDH Tree Removal permit

- Dead, Diseased or Hazardous Tree (DDH). A tree that is dead, untreatably diseased or infested, has a moderate or higher risk of failure with a target present, or has high to extreme risk of failure that cannot be mitigated. A Tree Risk Assessment Form completed by a Certified Arborist is required
- If Upon receiving a complete application an inspection will be scheduled for the Arborist to complete the inspection of your tree(s) within five business days. During periods of heavy volume, turnaround time may be longer. Applications will be processed in the order in which they were received.
- A meeting with the property owner is not required but access to property will be required.
- In Upon completion of the inspection, the Arborist will approve, deny, or require additional information on the tree(s).
- M If tree(s) are denied for removal, you may file an appeal to the UDO Administrator. To file an appeal, contact John Maximuk at John.maximuk@decaturga.com

## Tree Removal Permit

- PROCEDURE TO REQUEST INSPECTION FOR A TREE REMOVAL PERMIT
- Submit a completed application, for tree removal to the City Arborist
  - Online through: Community Core beginning 3-31-22
  - Email to City Arborist at treepermits@decaturga.com
- \* A Canopy loss fee will be assessed and is based on the amount of yearly tree benefit lost per Fair or higher rated tree removed. Please visit the National Tree Benefit calculator at: <a href="http://www.treebenefits.com">http://www.treebenefits.com</a> to determine the monetary amount. Then use the following formula: \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ yearly benefit amount, times 5 years = \$\_\_\_\_\_\_. that amount shall be paid to the tree bank.
- A 50% Reduction in canopy loss fees is allowed on commercial and residential properties if the site design includes rooftop solar voltaic panels or green infrastructure practices and no additional trees are removed to install them.

## Questions?

Please stand at the podium to ask questions

