

Agricultural Use means the use of land for the growing of crops or the raising of livestock as permitted under the [Maple Ridge Zoning Bylaw](#).

Environmental Setbacks: If the property is located near or within a riparian or ecologically sensitive area, a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) must determine the setbacks allowed for farming and they must be incorporated into the farm plan and the Tree Management Plan if required. The City may require further documents.

Removing Less Than Ten (10) Protected Trees: No permit is required if the land is in active Agricultural Use, with active farm status. This exemption does not apply to any construction activities. **You must notify the City prior to removing trees by emailing Trees@MapleRidge.ca.**

Removing Ten (10) Protected Trees or More Requires a Permit and a Tree Management Plan
Tree Management Plans must be digital and produced by a Registered Professional Forester or Certified Arborist. Submit Tree Management Plans to Trees@MapleRidge.ca and ensure it includes the following:

1. Tree Survey: per the definition in the [bylaw](#)
2. Initial Tree Assessment report including:
 - a. Complete inventory of Protected and Significant Trees, including but not limited to location, species, Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), age class, health condition, recommendation (retention/removal), Critical Root Zone (CRZ), etc.
 - b. Show the proposed farming area and planned setbacks and buffers
3. A Tree Retention Plan: that demonstrates selective clearing and maximizes strategic tree retention
4. Site clearing protection measures: a statement of protection and arborist monitoring duties during site clearing covering grading, drainage, irrigation, Tree Protection Barriers (TPB) around CRZs and boundary trees
5. Tree Risk Assessment: prepared by a Qualified Tree Risk Assessor identifying trees that pose hazards during and after site clearing. Submit before clearing and after completion
6. Replacement Tree Planting Plan: The arborist must identify potential planting locations along the edges of the farming area. The City will review the proposal and determine the final replacement tree

requirements based on the agricultural use and the land available for planting. Trees being retained may be counted toward replacement tree requirements.

7. Monitoring Schedule for Retained and Replacement Tree plantings during and after clearing by a Certified Arborist
8. Securities: calculation of total securities for Retained Trees and Replacement Trees per the [bylaw](#)

Additional Plans (as Required by Site Conditions):

The City will confirm with the applicant if these are required.

1. Erosion and sediment control plan, prepared by a Qualified Professional under the [Maple Ridge Watercourse Protection Bylaw No. 6410-2006](#)
2. Groundwater Impact Assessment: When removing more than ten (10) Protected Trees or clearing more than 500 square metres over a vulnerable aquifer; prepared by a qualified hydrological professional
3. Windfirm Assessment: For new forest edges, addressing blowdown risk and retention of large woody debris in Conservation/Riparian Areas; prepared by a Registered Professional Forester or experienced Certified Arborist
4. Detailed Survey: BC Land Surveyors survey showing retention and replacement areas requiring restrictive covenants
5. Bird nesting survey prepared by a Qualified Professional and per [section 7.4](#) of the [Tree Protection and Management Bylaw](#)
6. Pre-work confirmation: All protection and mitigation measures must be inspected by the Certified Arborist, summarized, submitted to, and approved by, the City before development work begins on site

A full version of the City of Maple Ridge Tree Protection and Management Bylaw is available at [Tree Protection & Management Bylaw No. 7133-2015](#).

For information regarding tree cutting permit requirements, contact the Facilities, Parks and Properties Department at Trees@MapleRidge.ca or call 604-467-7346.

This information is provided for convenience only and is not a substitution of applicable City Bylaws, Provincial or Federal Codes or Laws. You must satisfy yourself that any existing or proposed construction or other works complies with such Bylaws, Codes or other laws.