



Receiving Vegetation

All potentially salvageable vegetation is identified in a database which allows matches to be made between donors and potential recipients.

Salvage vegetation is provided to two categories of recipients: 1) governmental entities, and 2) not-for-profit organizations and the general public. The distribution of salvage trees/shrubs is based on proximity to the donor site, time frame available for relocation, and the need for tree canopy by the recipient.

Selected recipients will be contacted by an ERM staff member who will provide information concerning the conditions pertaining to the relocation of the vegetation. It is the responsibility of the recipient to coordinate with either ERM or the donor to arrange for the relocation of the vegetation. Refusal to accept vegetation available at a specific time will not exclude potential recipients from being eligible to receive future salvage material.

Final determination of how the vegetation is to be relocated is dependent on specific procedures and conditions which include current program funding availability. Proper forestry or arboricultural practices must be used in relocating any salvage vegetation.



Post-Salvage

- ◆ Replant vegetation at same depth as it was at the donor site. Sabal palms can be planted a little deeper if needed.
- ◆ Water plants until they become established.
- ◆ Do not fertilize for the first six (6) weeks.
- ◆ Prune any damaged or dead branches.
- ◆ Stake vegetation if needed.
- ◆ Mulch plants.



For additional information, contact:



Palm Beach County
 Board of County Commissioners
 Dept. of Environmental Resources
 Management
 2300 N. Jog Road, 4th Floor
 West Palm Beach, FL 33411-2743
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Vegetation Salvage Program



Department of Environmental Resources Management



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners



What is Vegetation Salvage?

Salvage vegetation is vegetation which cannot be preserved or relocated on site and otherwise would have been destroyed during land development. This vegetation can be saved through the County's Vegetation Salvage Program. The Program was developed to ensure that vegetation slated for removal, planted in an improper location, or that which is desirable for a specific planting project, can be relocated to an appropriate location.



Why Salvage Vegetation?

By salvaging vegetation, particularly trees and palms, Palm Beach County is protecting its tree canopy. It accomplishes this by using mature trees and palms in landscaping projects and in restoring disturbed native plant communities throughout the County. By relocating existing mature vegetation, the time required to develop a larger tree canopy is greatly reduced. It also adds instant landscaping to newly developed sites at a significantly reduced cost. The vegetation may also be used to fill in vegetative holes in existing natural areas and sensitive lands.



How the Program Works

Salvage vegetation may be identified in the site development permitting process or through landowner donations. In certain cases in the regulatory process (single family homes excluded) vegetation slated for removal must be identified in order to determine if it can be relocated on the site or made available for salvage and relocation to an alternate site.

A Vegetation Salvage Form which identifies the specific individual trees and/or shrubs that cannot be relocated on the site and are therefore available for salvage must be completed by permit applicants in unincorporated Palm Beach County. It is important that this form be completed as early as possible in the site development permitting process to ensure that proper pre-relocation maintenance can be performed, suitable receiver sites can be located, and the logistics of relocation can be identified and coordinated in adequate time for the relocation to be feasible.

After a vegetation removal permit is issued by the County, the vegetation must be held on the donor site for 20 days. Vegetation can be removed earlier if it is salvageable or if no alternative site is found. However, any early removal of vegetation must be approved by the County.

The Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) is responsible for vegetation removal permitting and implementation of the Vegetation Salvage Program. An important step in this process is the matching of available salvage trees/shrubs with potential recipients. The vegetation is first offered to County departments to be used in planting projects. If the County cannot use the vegetation, it is offered to a municipality that participates in the County's Forestry Partnership Program. If a receiver site is not located, other governmental entities, not-for-profit organizations, and the general public are given the opportunity to salvage the vegetation.

Another source of salvage vegetation is through donations made by landowners or other governmental entities. If a landowner or governmental entity wishes to donate vegetation, the entity contacts ERM to request a determination as to whether the vegetation is desirable for relocation. If warranted, an inspection is conducted in order to determine if the vegetation is acceptable.



Benefits of the Program

The benefits of donating salvage vegetation are three-fold. First, if the vegetation is relocated to a governmental or not-for-profit site, the donor will receive a receipt in the form of a letter expressing ERM's thanks for the donation or for their assistance in relocating the vegetation. This documentation could possibly be used for tax purposes. A second benefit would be the positive public image for the project and developer or landowner. Lastly, for a donation resulting from the regulatory process, a developer assisting with the relocation could significantly reduce the initial project start-up time and begin their project at an earlier date.



List of Salvage Vegetation

A current list of available salvage vegetation will be available in the reception area of the ERM office. Vegetation Salvage forms will also be available at this location. The salvage vegetation list and applicable forms are also available on ERM's web page:

www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/cnty/erm