



REGIONAL
DISTRICT
OF NANAIMO


How are Trees Protected?




What You Should Know Before You Cut

Prior to removing any trees or other vegetation in the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN), it is important to know if your property is located within an Environmental Development Permit Area (DPA), or if it contains any environmentally sensitive features. If your property is located within a DPA, a Development Permit from the RDN may be required prior to any land alteration, including vegetation removal and tree cutting.

You can find out if your property is located within a DPA by using the RDN Zoning Map available on our website or by contacting the RDN Planning Department:

 (250) 390-6510

 askplanning@rdn.bc.ca

 www.rdn.bc.ca/current-planning

It is also important to check the State of Title Certificate (Title) of your property to ensure there are no restrictive covenants registered to the Title which may restrict vegetation removal. You can obtain a copy of the Title of your property as well as any restrictive covenants from the BC Land Title & Survey office website: www.ltsa.ca.

Tools We Use to Protect Trees

Regional Growth Strategy (RGS)

The RGS establishes Growth Containment Boundaries and related policies that direct the majority of growth away from rural and resource lands and provides guidance on sustainable management of water, air, land, the coastal zone and Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

Official Community Plans (OCP)

An OCP contains special designated areas known as Development Permit Areas (DPA). Environmental DPAs often prohibit site disturbance prior to the approval of a development permit by the RDN, and are one of the key ways to address site-specific decisions about sensitive ecosystems. A development permit can specify conditions, such as tree preservation and replacement.

Zoning Bylaws

Zoning bylaws establish the permitted uses for the land, lot sizes and setbacks from sensitive ecosystems. These bylaws also include standards for landscaping, subdivision and road design as well as requirements for development within DPAs.

Conservation Covenants

Covenants are voluntary agreements regarding the use of the land registered to a property's Title in favour of the RDN (or other party). Covenants are often used as part of the development approvals process, customized to conserve corridors of sensitive ecosystems, and to support land management that ensures ecological values are retained.