

## Real Estate

## Q: Do I need a permit to cut down a tree on my property?

**A:** In Washington, many cities and towns have enacted special rules that regulate tree cutting and preservation. These regulations typically categorize different types of trees, based on variety, size, or age, and may restrict cutting them without a permit if the trees are very old or large, or are located in an environmentally critical area. If, however, a tree poses a danger to people or buildings, it's

more likely that the tree can be removed, although a permit or some other documentation may still be required. In Seattle, whether you need a permit depends on a number of factors, including the zoning designation for the property where the tree is located, whether tree removal is part of the development of the property, and the size and characteristics of the tree.

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