

# Permit Required for Tree Pruning on Commercial Properties in Cerritos



**Proper tree trimming techniques** maintain healthy trees which release clean air into the environment. Proper techniques include removing no more than 25% of a tree.

A tree pruning permit issued by the City of Cerritos Public Works Department is required for the following landscape and tree maintenance activities on commercial properties:

- ✦ Pruning of trees
- ✦ Thinning of trees
- ✦ Trimming of trees
- ✦ Maintenance of trees



**Improper tree trimming techniques** cause trees to become weak, creating a potential safety hazard.

## Tree Pruning Permit Process

The property owner or property management company of commercial properties in Cerritos (as described in the highlighted box) must obtain a tree pruning permit **prior** to any tree maintenance activities. Tree pruning permits can be obtained at the Public Works Department located at Cerritos City Hall, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue. The tree pruning permit process follows:

- 1 The landscape maintenance company hired to trim the trees must obtain a Cerritos business license.
- 2 Obtain a Tree Pruning Permit from the Public Works Department at least five business days prior to the scheduled start of work.
- 3 Schedule an on-site pre-inspection with a City representative.
- 4 Schedule an on-site post-inspection with a City representative upon completion of tree maintenance activities.

Penalties will be imposed for improper tree trimming activities pursuant to Chapter 9.75 of the Cerritos Municipal Code. **Penalties may include monetary fines based on the value of improperly maintained trees and/or a misdemeanor offense.**

A permit is required for tree pruning on the following properties:

- ✦ Commercial Properties
- ✦ Industrial Properties
- ✦ Apartment and Condominium Properties
- ✦ Common areas of Residential Homeowners Associations

## Additional Tips and Information

- ✦ Trees provide environmental benefits to the community.
- ✦ Trees should be properly maintained to extend the life of the trees.
- ✦ Trees should be provided with an adequate water supply.
- ✦ Any suspected tree hazards or need for maintenance of any City tree should be reported to the Public Works Department.
- ✦ Topping, heading back, stubbing, or pollarding of any trees on commercial properties within Cerritos is prohibited.
- ✦ Tree trimming violators should be reported to the Public Works Department.

**Other tree maintenance and pruning resources include:**

- ✦ International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)  
[www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)
- ✦ ISA Trees Are Good  
[www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org)
- ✦ Arbor Day Foundation  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)



For questions regarding landscape maintenance or tree trimming requirements, including the tree pruning permit process, please contact:

**City of Cerritos Public Works Department at (562) 916-1220**

