

Brevard County Landscape and Tree Protection Ordinance:

Suggested Revisions: Jim Spratt, Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association

62-3632- Definitions:

Non-native noxious invasive plants, for the purposes of this ordinance, means the following: All plants species listed in the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services rule 5B-57.007 Florida Administrative Code, as may be amended.

~~**Undesirable Species** means any of the following species: Australian Pine, suckering Australian pine, air potato, lantana, melaleuca, Chinese tallow tree, Brazilian pepper tree, African bowstring hemp, castor bean plant, downy rose myrtle, and including the species as found on the Florida Exotic Pest Council's List of Florida's Most Invasive Species, as may be amended.~~

* The definition is redundant if you incorporate the state adopted list. In addition the FEPPC list is not designed to be adopted by rule, it is a reference guide for large tract public land managers. It would also be good for the committee to read over Chapter 581.091 F.S.

62-3634 Exemptions:

(3) The removal of any species identifies in section 62-3632 of this ordinance or those species identified on the Florida Exotic Plant Pest Council's List of Invasive Species, as may be amended except within shoreline protection buffers as defines by Article X, the Brevard County Costal Construction Setback Line as defined by Article XII, and wetlands as defined by Article X. Within these areas, invasive plant removal is exempt if: a. No mechanical equipment is used; b. roots shall not be removed below ground. Above ground foliage may be cut and stumps treated appropriately; c Herbicides are used to treat the invasive species as approved for aquatic use

62-3640 Landscape Performance Standards: (Substantial Rewrite)

(16) For projects using Xeriscapetm or Waterwise landscaping, the following criteria shall be met:

a) Landscape plans must clearly demonstrate that plants species are grouped by water requirements (i.e. natural areas, drought tolernent areas, and oasis

areas).. In addition, the landscape must be installed as detailed in the landscape plan.

b) Property must be one hundred (100) % free of non-native noxious invasive plant species.;

c) A layer of at least three (3) inches of inorganic or organic mulched must be present. The use of mulches containing Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) is expressly prohibited. Brevard NRMCO has the authority to inspect and test newly placed mulch material for CCA's and the responsibility to deny final approval of a landscape plan if mulches containing CCA's are used.

d) No more than fifty (50) percent of the landscape shall be equipped with low volume (micro) irrigation delivery systems.

e) Turf grass shall not be planted in areas less than 400 ft².

f) Soil analysis and letter confirming appropriate amendments must be submitted to the NRMCO

g) Property must be free of weeds pests and not declared as an overgrowth public nuisance as defined in Chapter 114, Article II

h) Landscape must be appropriately maintained. Improper pruning shall not constitute appropriate maintenance. In no event shall overgrowth as defined in Chapter 114, Article II be allowable as Xeriscape or Water-Wise Landscaping.

i) Consistent with Florida Law, automatic irrigation system, if any, must be equipped with automatic rain sensor shut-off devices.;

j) Brevard NRMCO may provide a variance from the turf or landscape requirements, in circumstances where landscape irrigation systems incorporate demand-based irrigation scheduling.

l) If criteria a-i are met in their entirety, NRMCO shall provide special recognition in the form of listing of the Brevard County website and/or via signage to be displayed in the landscape and a fifty (50) percent reduction of the required shrubbery square footage per acre of buildable area shall be credited.

* The committee brought up concerns that the turf requirement (e) might not be the best recommendation. I will conduct some additional research on the issue but, I am committed to getting away from a percentage number requirement for turf grass.