

Lorraine Cochran-Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Cedric Hudson
Interim Director

ANNOUNCEMENT

To: Builders, Contractors, Developers and Design Professionals

Subject: Encroachment of Critical Root Zone Area

This correspondence is an effort to clarify issues surrounding the encroachment of the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) of a tree on a permitted construction site.

Per the County Tree Ordinance [Section 14-39(g) (9) b.] **no construction activities are to occur within six feet of the CRZ as determined by one foot of radius per one inch of diameter @ breast height (DBH).** In certain situations, the Arborist and E&SC review officers may determine that a certain amount of encroachment may be allowed for a particular tree. Such determinations are made on an individual basis, and the outcomes are likely to vary. There are a variety of factors used to determine if and how much encroachment may be allowed. Those factors may include, but are not limited to:

- The amount of encroachment proposed
- What part of the CRZ will be affected
- Proximity to the structural roots
- General health of the subject tree
- Tree species
- Quantity of saved trees on site
- Topography

It is not a given, and no one should expect that any encroachment of a preserved tree on a construction site will be approved.