



Public Participation Workshop
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2009
Loxahatchee Groves Elementary School
Amendment of Article 14, Chapter C and D of the
Environmental Land Development Regulations

Workshop Agenda

I. General Overview of the Draft Code

A. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

- Leaves the regulation of wetlands with the State and/or Federal jurisdictional authority
- Removes the requirement to replace specimen trees with trees of the same size
- Removes the requirement to replace Dahoon Holly with trees of the same size
- Removes the mandated *Prohibited Vegetation Removal Schedule Program*
- Removes the buffering criteria around Natural Areas
- Establishment of native upland preserves is by incentive, it is not mandated
- Reduces the number of types of permits from five down to two
- Reduces the non-native invasive clearing criteria from 500 feet to 200 feet
- Removes the requirement for the application form to be notarized
- Condenses the code to one Chapter

B. CONDENSED-SIMPLIFIED-CLEAR

Structured with information consolidated into sections that flows in a logical progression

SECTION 1. General

SECTION 2. Definitions

SECTION 3. Permit Types, Exempt and Prohibited Activities

SECTION 4. Application Requirements and Fees

SECTION 5. Standards

SECTION 6. Permit Conditions

SECTION 7. Tree Mitigation

SECTION 8. Habitat Preservation

SECTION 9. Appeals

SECTION 10. Violations

C. PROVISIONS

- Allows for clearing prior to issuance of a Land Development or Building Permit
- Allows for on-site and off-site tree relocation
- Provides flexibility in mitigation through tree replacement, habitat preservation or both
- Allows for a waiver of mitigation for SFR on parcels less than two acres
- Allows for mitigation deferral for agricultural clearing
- Provides for alternative mitigation
- Simplifies the process to two permit types: a General permit or a De Minimis Permit

II. Foundations of the Draft Code

A. The Town's Strategic Vision Plan identified these values to be reflected in the Town's policies and operational practices:

- Respect for nature
- Maintaining and enhancing native landscapes
- Maintaining a tree canopy
- Preservation and restoration and of the natural environment
- Cost effective, efficient minimal government

B. The Town has established Comprehensive Plan Objectives to conserve, manage, appropriately use, and to protect the Towns:

- Natural resources
- Water sources
- Soils and minerals
- Environmentally sensitive lands

III. Goals of the Draft Code

- To avoid the unnecessary destruction of native vegetation
- To pursue eradication of invasive non-native vegetation
- To minimize adverse impacts to native vegetation during parcel improvements
- To mitigate the removal of native vegetation
- To relocate any movable native vegetation that cannot be incorporated into a site plan to a location approved by the Town
- To protect exposed and disturbed soils from stormwater or wind forces

IV. Review and Discussion of Code Criteria

A review and discussion of the criteria in the draft code will be conducted to obtain feedback from the residents. The following points will in particular be reviewed as well as other points brought forward by the Town residents.

- Permit Types
- Standards of Permit Issuance
- Vacant Land Standards
- Tree Relocation
- Specimen Tree Standards
- Tree Mitigation, Waivers and Deferrals
- Tree Replacement