

Municipality Year Adopted and/or Last amended	Trees/Properties/Area of Lot Affected	Size/Species of Trees	Involved Officials And/Or Agency	Criteria for Removal of Tree	Elements of Tree Plan/Survey	Bond and fees	Guidelines/Requirements for Planting or Removal	Fines
Town of Cortlandt Adopted 1981 Updated 2008	<p>Permit required for removal of trees on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lots developed with one or two family residences greater than 4 acres. -Lots undeveloped or which not site plan or subdivision has been approved. -Permit is required for all site soil movements of 100 cubic yards or greater with a vertical dimension greater than 12 inches or more than 6" within the critical root zone of a tree. 	<p>Tree 4" at 4.5' -Specimen Tree – 12" at 4.5 and/or minimum crown spread of 15' -Protected Tree – 7 species listed, and wetland trees designated by NYS Environmental Conservation Law.</p> <p>-There is a detailed list of trees classified as endangered, threatened, rare, vulnerable, that are protected. In addition, there is a tree planting list of acceptable and prohibited trees for general use planting and replacement planting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ZBA when issuing any other permit or approval. -Planning Board when issuing any other permit or approval -Town Board when issuing any other permit or approval including applications which require permit or approval from ZBA or Planning Board -CAC – application for permit to be reviewed and reported upon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider public health, safety, soil erosion, habitat disturbance, fire protection, drainage. - Activities permitted on privately held residentially or developed property of not more than 4 acres. Removal of 3 or fewer trees in a 12 month period is allowed, provided the trees are not protected, are not w/in 10 ft. of the property line, or are diseased or dangerous. -There are 7 conditions by which removal of regulated trees may be favored. Tree removal may be denied if there will be negative effects on erosion, drainage, growth of other plants, property values, aesthetics, and wildlife habitat. There are 10 standards of approval for permits for topographical alterations. Replanting is a condition of any approval. 	<p>For privately held, undeveloped property, a property owner that wants subdivision approval with plans that include removal of 4 trees or more will submit a tree inventory done by an ISA certified arborist, and must submit a tree protection plan.</p> <p>-A written statement of purpose and reasons for removal is required. A full plan is required that shows details of the property and proposed work. If plan is for topographical alterations, a plan must show all details of the project. In both cases a restoration and clean up plan is required.</p>	<p>A security may be required to ensure compliance; set by approving agency.</p>	<p>Tree Protection Plan will include inventory of existing trees, proposed trees to be cut, and saved and the landscape plan, and a detailed plan to protect and preserve trees for up to 2 years after construction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Construction zone boundaries must be marked. Inventory trees, remove unhealthy trees, select and protect trees to be saved. Monitor trees during construction. The property owner must submit a letter documenting the nature and extent of removal to the Director of Technical Services. -A reforestation must be established prior to work commencing. Specific requirements are outlined in the statute to include number of trees, size of trees, and type, but must be 1/1/2 times the removed trees. -No department, agency, commission or authority shall cut down, kill, or destroy more than 5 trees, or any single tree exceeding 18 inches in the diameter at the height of 4 1/2 feet above ground. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Civil Penalty – max of \$1000 for 1st offense, \$2,000 for 2nd offense, \$3,000 for 3rd and subsequent offenses. -Penal Law – min. \$500 max \$1000; min \$1000 max \$2000 for second and each subsequent violation, or 30 days imprisonment. Each offense separate, each day separate offense -Town may seek equitable relief to restrain any violation -Violator may be required to restore affected areas -Sites may be inspected.