

October 13, 2006

TREE REMOVAL IN ASHBOROUGH SUBDIVISION

1. **Discussion.** After the approval of the Ashborough Covenants, Restrictions, and Bylaws, Dorchester County modified the definitions of “Protected Tree” and “Grand Tree” and consequently the requirements for obtaining a Tree Permit Application in Dorchester County. The modified definitions are more easily understood, less restrictive, and in conflict with the requirements of the Covenants, Article IX, Section 3.g.

As an interim measure, the **Board** of the Ashborough Civic Association approved a modification to the requirements of the Covenants to permit **Architectural Review Board (ARB)** approval of Tree Permit Applications for Ashborough Lot Owners conforming to the requirements of Dorchester County. A formal change to the Covenants, Restrictions, and Bylaws will be promulgated at a later date for approval by Members of the Association.

2. **Modified Definitions.** The following modifications to Covenants, Article IX, Section 3.g, (Page CR-21) apply:

(1) **Protected Tree.** A tree fifteen inches (15”) in diameter at breast height (DBH) to twenty-four inches (24”), excluding pine, shall be protected by Dorchester County and Ashborough Subdivision because of its contribution to the environment, property values, and quality of life. An ARB and Dorchester County Tree Permit Application are required for a “Protected Tree.”

(2) **Grand Tree.** A tree of special value due to its age and stature, such is deemed of irreplaceable value to Dorchester County and the Ashborough Subdivision. Trees twenty-four inches (24”) in DBH or greater, including pine, shall be considered grand trees. An ARB and Dorchester County Tree Permit Application are required for a “Grand Tree.”

3. **Amplifying Information.**

- a) Any property owner who intentionally removes trees from his/her yard without a Dorchester County Tree Permit Application and ARB permission is subject to a Restriction Violation, “hard to remedy violation” which carries a fine of from \$250.00 to \$5000.00 as a majority of the Board of Directors (ARB) may approve.
- b) **DBH**, Diameter at Breast Height, can best be determined by measuring the circumference of the tree at approximately five feet up the trunk with a string or tape measure and then dividing that measurement by 3.14.
- c) Information on **ARB** procedures, instructions, and forms required are available on the web site at <http://www.ashborough.org/CivicAssociation/architecturalreviewboard.html>.