

**Village of the Hills, TX  
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program  
Forest Treatment Plan**

**DESCRIPTION OF TREATMENT ZONES**

Treatment zone boundaries shall comply with those identified in the Comprehensive Grant Mitigation Application submitted 23 March, 2012. Treatment zone boundaries shall be marked with color-coded flagging as delineated on maps that were developed by the Village and submitted as part of the above grant application. Zones will also be delineated to avoid areas with slopes exceeding thirty percent grade (approximately fifteen degrees). Pruning, thinning and removal should adhere to the following prescription:

**Canopy Edge Zone** (0-30 feet inside tree canopy boundary; outer edge marked with \_\_\_\_\_ colored flagging).

- a. Branches, logs and dead vegetation on the ground less than four inches in diameter shall be removed.
- b. Live and dead branches on both live oak and juniper trees shall be pruned to between four and six feet above ground level.
- c. Remove juniper and live oak trees as follows:
  1. Less than four inches in diameter **and**
  2. Less than ten feet tall **and**
  3. Not currently contributing to healthy canopy cover **and**
  4. Not growing into a canopy opening
- d. If a live oak or juniper tree is growing into a canopy opening **and is less than ten feet in height**, limbs will be pruned to approximately one-half the height of the tree.
- e. Juniper trees that are dead, exhibit over seventy-five percent branch mortality and/or dead crowns shall be removed.
- f. Live oak trees (exposed stumps and pruning scars) shall be painted.
- g. Slash and removed vegetation shall be removed as per the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application.

**Canopy Interior Zone** (greater than thirty feet inside tree canopy boundary shall be marked with colored flagging).

- a. Branches, logs and dead vegetation on the ground less than four inches in diameter shall be removed.
- b. Live and dead branches on both live oak and juniper trees shall be pruned to between four and six feet above ground level.
- c. Remove juniper and live oak trees as follows:
  1. Less than four inches in diameter **and**

- 2. Less than ten feet tall **and**
- 3. Not currently contributing to healthy canopy cover **and**
- 4. Not growing into a canopy opening
- d. If a live oak or juniper tree is growing into a canopy opening **and is less than ten feet in height**, limbs will be pruned to approximately one-half the height of the tree.
- e. Juniper trees that are dead, exhibit over seventy-five percent branch mortality and/or dead shall be removed.
- f. Live oak trees (exposed stumps and pruning scars) shall be painted.
- g. Slash and removed vegetation shall be removed as per the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application.

**Open Woodland Zone** (outside of continuous tree canopy; outer edge marked with \_\_\_\_\_ colored flagging)

- A. Branches, logs and dead vegetation on the ground less than four inches in diameter shall be removed.
- b. Live and dead branches on both live oak and juniper trees shall be pruned to between four and six feet above ground level.
- c. Remove juniper and live oak trees as follows:
  - 1. Less than four inches in diameter **and**
  - 2. Less than ten feet tall **and**
  - 3. Not currently contributing to healthy canopy cover **and**
  - 4. Not growing into a canopy opening
- d. If a live oak or juniper tree is growing into a canopy opening **and is less than ten feet in height**, limbs will be pruned to approximately one-half the height of the tree.
- e. Juniper trees that are dead, exhibit over seventy-five percent branch mortality and/or dead crowns shall be removed.
- f. Live oak trees (exposed stumps and pruning scars) shall be painted.
- g. Slash and removed vegetation shall be removed as per the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application.

**Dead Tree Removal Zone** (contiguous areas of high juniper mortality; edge marked with \_\_\_\_\_ colored flagging).

- a. Remove dead juniper trees (greater than seventy five percent branch mortality or dead tree crown).
- b. Paint accidental wounds on oak trees.
- c. All woody debris shall be removed from site unless otherwise directed by Village of the Hills officials.

**General:**

Prior to commencing work in any of the designated areas, LTFR shall notify the Village and the consultant at least forty-eight hours prior. A responsible party/supervisor from LTFR shall be present at all times during work.

Access to treatment areas for work as well as for debris removal shall be coordinated with Village and the consultant prior to work commencing. Parking for equipment and debris containers shall be coordinated by the Village. Equipment shall not obstruct roadways or emergency access/egress routes. Woody debris shall be removed from the sites daily.

**Safety:**

LTFR shall be responsible for enforcing all applicable safety requirements during transportation to and from the work site, during treatment work, in and around all roadways, including placing of warning signs as needed and use of appropriate personal protection to protect workers. Fire suppression equipment shall be present at all times during work cycles

**Oak Wilt Prevention:**

All work shall be done during months that comply with oak wilt prevention practices. All exposed cuts on oak trees shall be painted within thirty minutes of cutting. All cutting equipment/tools shall be disinfected between treatment on different oak trees. LTFR shall ensure that work crews are supplied with the necessary disinfectant and tree paint at all times.

**Fire Safety and Prevention:**

LTFR shall abide by all applicable state and local regulatory requirements, including burn bans and weather-related influences. LTFR will coordinate and notify as appropriate the local emergency services district to ensure compliance.

**Habitat/Local Ecosystem:**

All work shall comply with all applicable requirements/best management practices regarding local wildlife, plant species and watershed protection. Fire reduction treatment shall not cause any harm to the local ecosystem.

**Values:**

All treatment work shall also take into consideration community values such as aesthetics, functional and emotional aspects of the vegetation as well as other such items as described by the Village.