

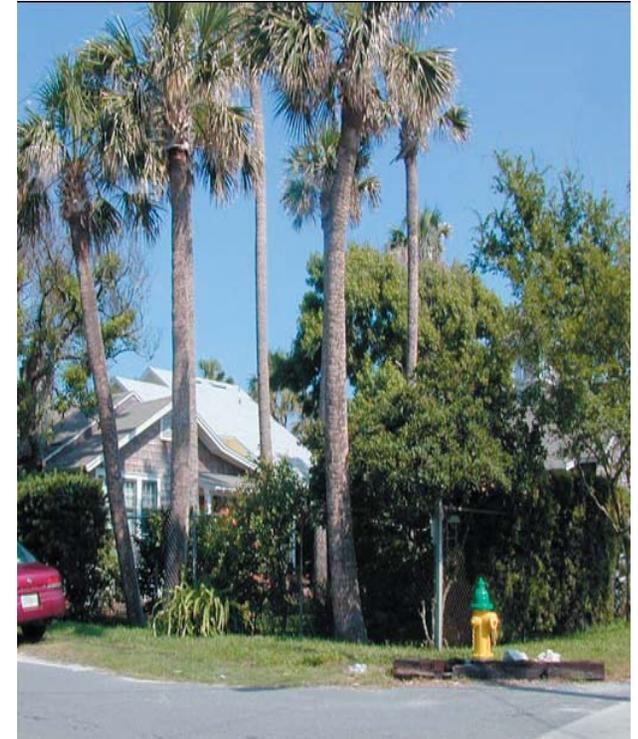
C. Guidelines: Landscape Features

Objective: Maintain and perpetuate the hardwood tree canopy that provides shade, privacy and beauty to the City.

Guideline C.1. When planting new hardwood trees, preference should be given to the City's recommended native tree list, which contains numerous varieties of oaks and hollies.



By maintaining the oak tree canopy, particularly along the street edge, the traditional character of this neighborhood is preserved.



This street corner displays a rich mixture of trees and vegetation.

Lush, mature landscapes are a part of the design traditions of Atlantic Beach, and this should be continued. Deciduous shade trees, native palms, flowering shrubs and lawns are key elements of the environments, and keeping a high percentage of a lot planted is encouraged. Priority should be given to all types of plant species that are drought resistant, including Xeriscape landscaping that minimizes the need for watering and high-nitrogen fertilizers and pesticides.

C. Guidelines: Landscape Features

Guideline C.2. Avoid three-story designs that extend above the existing tree canopy and prohibit light from reaching existing hardwood trees.



Large three-story houses often require removal of trees and also break the rhythm of the tree canopy.



*An abundance of leafy trees like the Live Oak along with tougher municipal regulations on tree removal and greater attention to the urban forest, appear to help reduce electric consumption.
University of Florida Extension Dept.*



Palms planted in groups create more cooling shade and visual interest.

Regulation: A Tree Removal Permit is required where construction is planned within a six-month time. (Chapter 23 of the City Code.)

For areas subject to the Residential Development Standards, one 4-inch caliper shade tree is required in the front yard and a second elsewhere on the lot in any location desired provided it is not placed over utilities. (Section 24-172.c.5.)

Native oaks and hollies, as identified within the City's Recommended Tree List, are preferred. Credit is given for existing healthy trees, and additional shade trees are not required.

C. Guidelines: Landscape Features

Guideline C.3. In order to promote the continued street canopy, trees should be planted close to the front property line provided there is no conflict with utilities or clear sight distance at intersections.



Mature trees create a canopy over many of the narrow residential streets of the community. Atlantic Beach is strongly identified by this beautiful dense tree canopy consisting of oaks, palms, pines and other native vegetation. This should be continued, and new tree plantings should include canopy-forming trees.

These tall shade trees are part of the design tradition that is a signature of Atlantic Beach and should be continued. Maintaining the canopy effect at the street edge is especially important.

