

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND  
THE BRUCE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE  
ORDINANCE # 161-01-23**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BRUCE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE #161.**

**THE TOWNSHIP OF BRUCE ORDAINS:**

**ARTICLE 1.** Amend Section 161-5.20 to read as follows:

**Section 5.20    PRESERVATION OF WOODED AREAS.**

A. Intent. The intent of this Section is to preserve the wooded areas of Bruce Township, to the extent preservation is compatible with reasonableness and the following purposes cited in the adopted Bruce Township Master Plan.

- Slope stabilization and erosion control.
- Conserving water quality.
- Maintaining a microclimate.
- Filtering pollution from the atmosphere.
- Preserving the rural character, healthy environment, and aesthetic quality of the township
- Mitigating noise.
- Managing storm water runoff.

Recognizing the above-cited benefits of vegetation and woodlands, it is important to integrate these natural features into existing and future development(s) to improve the community's environmental quality and to enhance the visual character of development.

B. Tree Removal Permit Required. Except as specified below, no person shall remove a tree or trees or cause a tree to be removed in Bruce Township without a tree removal permit.

1. A tree removal permit shall not be required for any of the following:

- a. Removal of a tree or trees below six (6) inches diameter at breast height (DBH).
- b. The removal of dead trees.
- c. The removal of a tree that poses an imminent danger to health and safety.
- d. The removal of two (2) trees per calendar year on occupied single-family properties less than one (1) acre in size. On occupied single-family properties one acre or larger, the removal of eight (8) trees or not more than ten (10) percent of the total trees on the lot, whichever is less, within one calendar year shall be permitted without a permit.
- e. Trees removed to facilitate the agricultural use of land.

2. Any tree not listed in item 1. above shall be considered a regulated tree.

3. Where any tree listed as exempt from a tree removal permit in items 1.a-c. above was planted as part of an approved landscape plan, it shall be replaced in accordance with the approved landscape plan.
  4. If trees are removed prior to the issuance of a removal permit, the Township shall review the most recent Macomb County digital aerial photography to determine whether the requirements of this Ordinance have been met.
- C. Tree Inventory. Any party proposing to remove regulated trees from a site shall provide a tree inventory, indicating the location, diameter at breast height (DBH), and species of all regulated trees on the site, or in the case of a large site where work will be performed only in a delineated work area, within the work area. For all uses requiring a site plan, this inventory shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission at the time of site plan approval or, for existing sites not otherwise proposed to be modified, by the Planning Commission on its own. For uses not requiring site plan approval, the inventory shall be reviewed by the Building Department. The inventory shall also specify the following:
1. Which regulated trees will be removed, and which will remain.
  2. The health of each regulated tree (good, fair, poor, dead).
  3. If replacements are required, calculations for the number of required replacements.
  4. The method of protection for trees not to be removed, including the proposed location of snow fencing.
- D. Replacement of Removed Trees. Where greater than fifty (50) percent of the regulated trees on a site or in a delineated work area will be removed, the inventory shall state how many trees in excess of fifty (50) percent will be removed. This number, multiplied by two (2), shall be the total number of replacement trees required to be placed on the site. Replacement trees shall be a minimum caliper of three (3) inches for deciduous trees, and a minimum installed height of eight (8) feet for evergreens.

**ARTICLE 2. REPEAL, EFFECTIVE DATE**

1. All regulatory provisions contained in other Township Ordinances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.
2. This ordinance shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, 7 days following publication of a Notice of Adoption.

**CERTIFICATION OF TOWNSHIP CLERK**

I, Susan Kraft, Bruce Township Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an amendment to the Bruce Township Zoning Ordinance adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 by the following vote:

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, Supported by \_\_\_\_\_.

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Absent:  
Motion: Carried

Susan Kraft  
Bruce Township Clerk

The Township Board ordered notice of adoption and summary to be published one time in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022. A true and complete copy of the above ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the offices of the Township Clerk, Mondays through Thursdays, except holidays, during regular Township business hours.