

Policy for Resident Access for Clearing Green Space

This Policy for Resident Access for Clearing Green Space (the “Policy”) shall govern the access and clearing of land owned by Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (the "District") by residents of the District.

Access and Clearing of Green Space: Recommended Actions

1. Green Space Clearing Area: The allowable green space clearing area shall be limited to fifty (50) feet of the District-owned green space land that is adjacent to and directly behind a platted lot within the West Cypress Hills subdivision. When another platted lot is located behind and less than one hundred feet from a rear lot line, the clearing distance shall not exceed one half of the distance between the lots. A resident of the District may clear only the green space that is adjacent to and directly behind a platted lot that the resident owns or leases. When lots are aligned at an angle, residents are cautioned to coordinate with their neighbors, as some residents may not agree with clearing the green space area immediately adjacent to their lot.
2. Green Space Brush and Grass Clearing: Residents of the District may clear foliage, vegetation, low-lying shrubs, downed limbs, and brush, as well as trim the grass regularly within in the prescribed District green space clearing area. Grass should be kept less than twelve (12) inches high.
3. Green Space Tree Clearing: Residents of the District may remove cedar trees (Ashe juniper) of any diameter within the prescribed District green space clearing area. Residents of the District may remove trees, other than oak trees, which are six (6) inches in diameter or smaller, within the prescribed District green space clearing area. Other than cedar trees, trees measuring larger than six (6) inches in diameter shall not be removed from any District-owned land. The diameter of a tree shall be measured at the height of three (3) feet above ground level.
4. Green Space Tree Trimming: Residents of the District may trim, prune, and limb all trees within the prescribed green space clearing area, up to a maximum of [six (6)] [ten (10)] feet above ground level.
5. Plant Waste Disposal. Plant and brush waste should be disposed of outside of the green space areas. Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) will pick up bundled brush upon request. Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 may implement curb-side collection for large brush twice per year.

Access and Clearing of Green Space: Prohibited Actions

The following actions are prohibited unless written permission is obtained from the General Manager or another Designated Representative of the District.

1. Herbicides: The use any form of herbicides in any District green space is prohibited.
2. Erosion Protection: Moving, removing, or otherwise tampering with any erosion protection in District green space is prohibited.
3. Natural Drainage: Modifying the existing natural rainfall runoff in any District green space is prohibited.
4. Oak Trees: Oak trees in the District green space of any diameter shall not be cut down or removed, except those that are diseased or dead. Pruning oak trees is recommended.
5. Non-Native Plants: Non-native grasses, shrubs, flowers, trees, or cactus shall not be planted in the District green space.
6. Non-Natural Appearance: Grasses, shrubs, flowers, trees, soil, or rocks shall not be planted or organized in a manner that would give the green space a non-natural appearance. Residents and other persons shall not build tree houses, erect ladders or swings, or install furniture, fire-pits, deer feeders, and other unnatural items in the District green space.
7. Fences: Fences or boundaries of any type shall not be erected on installed in the District green space.
8. Brush Piles: Residents and other persons shall not store foliage, vegetation, or brush from clearing anywhere on District-owned land. Disposal of plant and brush waste in piles in the green space is prohibited. Plant and brush waste may be disposed of by mechanically shredding and spreading the contents evenly over the ground, provided the ground is not a waterway, or provided the ground is not an area that is periodically mowed by the District.
9. Fires and Burning: Residents shall not burn foliage, trees, tree limbs, vegetation, or brush piles from clearing anywhere on District-owned land.
10. Excavation: Residents and other persons shall not excavate (dig) or borrow soil anywhere on District-owned land.
11. Waste Disposal. Residents and other persons shall not discard or dump non-plant waste, refuse, rocks, soils, construction debris, or excavation spoils anywhere on District land.
12. Natural Terrain: Rocks shall not be moved except to facilitate mowing.

References: Firewise Guide to Landscape and Construction
www.Firewise.org