Land Clearing Permit Information

All activities related to disturbance over one (1) acre shall require a Land Clearing Permit. The disturbance of any development or redevelopment of a lot or parcel of land, excluding individual existing residential lots of less than five (5) acres in a recognized subdivision, shall require a Land Clearing Permit.

➢ Submit a completed Land Clearing Permit Application along with the review fee of fifty-dollars ($50.00). A sixty-dollar ($60.00) permit fee and fifteen-dollar ($15.00) building permit tech fee is due when the Land Clearing Permit is issued.

➢ A Land Clearing Permit is issued for “Clearing and Grubbing Only”. Plans for Site Grading and Earthwork are not reviewed with a Land Clearing Permit, and are therefore not allowed.

➢ DPW Environmental Division approval required.
Contact: 300 N. 10th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802 (225) 389-4857.
   a) For Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (1 acre or larger developed).
   b) For Notice of Intent (5 acres or larger development).

➢ Mitigation plans are required for sites located within fill-restricted areas.

➢ Planning Commission approval shall be required prior to issuance of a Land Clearing Permit for those projects subject to Planning Commission review.

➢ Submit the following:
   • A current (most recent available) aerial photo of the site.
   • Existing hydrology.
   • Topographical map of the subject site.

➢ Submit a survey plan showing existing vegetation on the site. If tree protection credits will be requested, identify all trees to be preserved; specifically identifying and locating tree species with a DBH of ten (10) inches or greater. A list of trees qualifying for credit may be found in the UDC, Appendix D. Tree protection fencing as defined by UDC must be in place prior to clearing and must remain in place throughout the construction process.

➢ Submit a conceptual site plan and intended use (if required). Plan shall indicate driveways, parking, drainage layout as well as existing drainage inlets, swales and ditches, proposed structures.

➢ Environmentally Sensitive Areas must be shown on plans and are defined as: an area not suitable for development due to the presence of significant wetlands, floodplains, or habitat for Threatened or Endangered Species as determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Environmentally Sensitive Areas cannot be cleared unless the applicant can show there is no practicable alternative to the clearing of these areas on the site. An EPA “404” Permit mitigates this requirement for federally recognized wetlands.

➢ Submit a plan indicating Limits of Construction (as defined by UDC). Limits of Construction shall encompass only the proposed area(s) of improvement. Also indicate the Limits of Clearing (as defined by the UDC) which is the Limits of Construction extended up to ten percent (10%) to accommodate construction staging.

➢ The SWPPP must be implemented throughout the clearing process until the site is stabilized.

➢ All cleared areas shall have soil stabilization methods instituted within fourteen (14) days of clearing. If construction ceases for a period of fourteen (14) days or more, the land shall be stabilized by the fourteenth day.