

Sec. 406.06. - Exemptions.

The following activities are allowed subject to the specific limitations, restrictions and conditions. Persons shall submit a natural resource inventory or comparable administrative notice in order to demonstrate that they qualify for exemption prior to initiating any of the following activities:

- (a) *Removal of invasive vegetation.* Projects for which a plan has been approved by a federal, state, or local agency or water management district for the removal of undesirable invasive or non-native vegetation on lands owned, controlled, or managed for conservation purposes, excluding vegetation in surface waters and wetlands.
- (b) *Parks and recreation.* Alteration of vegetation pursuant to an adopted management plan for government maintained parks, recreation areas, wildlife management areas, conservation areas and preserves.
- (c) *Activities authorized by county approved management plan.* Activities consistent with a management plan adopted by, or reviewed and approved by Alachua County, provided that the activity furthers the natural values and functions of the ecological communities present, such as clearing firebreaks for prescribed burns or construction of fences.
- (d) *Existing utility installations and road right-of-way.* Alteration of vegetation within an existing utility easement post installation, where the vegetation is interfering with services provided by a utility or alteration of vegetation within an existing road right-of-way for normal maintenance activities. Alteration associated with new construction, or with the acquisition or transfer of easements or right-of-way, is not an exempt activity.
- (e) *Fencing.* The minimal removal of trees or understory necessary to install a fence or wall, provided that no regulated tree is removed, the path cleared for the fence does not exceed ten feet in width, no equipment heavier than a one-ton pick-up truck, hand-held outdoor power equipment or a standard farm tractor is used in clearing for the fence or installing the fence, no dredge or fill activity is required other than the installation of posts and fence materials, and navigational access will not be impaired by the fence construction. Notwithstanding the above, the installation of farm fencing is exempt pursuant to F.S. § 604.50.
- (f) *Survey or other test required.* The necessary removal of vegetation by, or at the direction of, a State of Florida licensed professional surveyor and mapper, professional geologist, or professional engineer to conduct a survey or other required test, provided that no regulated tree is removed and the path cleared does not exceed five feet in width.
- (g) *Miscellaneous.* Those other projects for which the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department determines, in writing, that there will be no significant adverse impacts based on the factors and criteria set forth in this chapter.

(Ord. No. 05-10, § 2, 12-8-05; Ord. No. 09-01, § 2(Exh. A), 2-24-09; Ord. No. 12-09, § 2(Exh. A), 10-9-12)