



How to Request Approval to Trim or Remove Vegetation on TVA Property

This package describes the information the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) needs to review your request to trim or remove vegetation on public property under the Residential Shoreline Management Policy.

Mowing of lawns established on TVA-owned residential access shoreland prior to November 1, 1999 will be permitted upon request.

In areas which do not have pre-existing lawns, TVA will establish a shoreline management zone (SMZ). The SMZ is an area of TVA property extending 50-feet deep along the shoreline or to the extent of the public property, whichever is less.

TVA will generally permit removal of trees and planting grass within a 20-foot wide access / view corridor extending from your private property to the lake.

TVA can provide additional information to help you develop your vegetation management plan

Why is it important to maintain vegetation along the shore?

- Trees and understory vegetation protect water quality by filtering sediments and pollutants from runoff before they reach the lake.
- Root systems of trees and other vegetation hold soil in place and help reduce erosion.
- Trees and shoreline vegetation provide cover for fish and important wildlife habitat.
- Vegetation retains scenic beauty along the shoreline that most of the public values.

Is TVA review needed to trim or remove vegetation on TVA property?

Yes. Written approval from TVA is always needed to trim or remove any vegetation on TVA property. TVA will permit continued mowing of lawns established on TVA owned residential access shoreland prior to 11/1/99 as part of your next permit request. Otherwise, TVA will seek to maintain and improve existing shoreline vegetation to meet the goals listed above. However, you may apply for a permit to remove trees and other vegetation within a 20-foot wide access/view corridor extending from your lot to the lake. Within this access corridor, TVA will consider removal of trees for a view and planting grass. Your application should indicate where you would like your access corridor located and what vegetation you would like removed, remembering that removal of trees or other vegetation with high wildlife value should be avoided. Outside the access corridor, TVA will retain existing vegetation within a shoreline management zone (SMZ) 50-feet deep along the shoreline or to the extent of public property, whichever is less. Within the SMZ, TVA will consider requests for removal of exotic and nuisance plants, like poison ivy, or establishment of native plants, like dogwood trees. In addition, TVA will consider removal of some side limbs from trees within the SMZ. Where TVA owned residential access shoreland exists beyond the SMZ, TVA will consider requests for selective thinning of vegetation less than 3 inches in diameter. Waivers from these new standards can be requested in subdivisions or developed areas with permits issued by TVA prior to 11/1/99.

Is TVA review needed to remove vegetation on private property?

No. TVA review or approval is not needed to trim or remove vegetation on your private property. Likewise, a vegetation management plan is not needed and TVA will not require an SMZ or an access corridor on private property. TVA encourages private shoreline owners to leave native vegetation in place to the extent practical and will suggest appropriate native vegetation for planting upon request.

Helpful Hints:

1. Include a vegetation management plan with your TVA/USACE Section 26a application for your dock. A space to draw your own vegetation plan is provided in this handout.
2. Specify exactly what you would like to do on the TVA managed public property.
3. Place colorful ribbons on the public property at each end of the access corridor so TVA will know where you want it during the site inspection.
4. Provide several photos showing the access corridor location and dock location, if applicable.
5. The walkway to any proposed dock facilities must be within the access corridor.

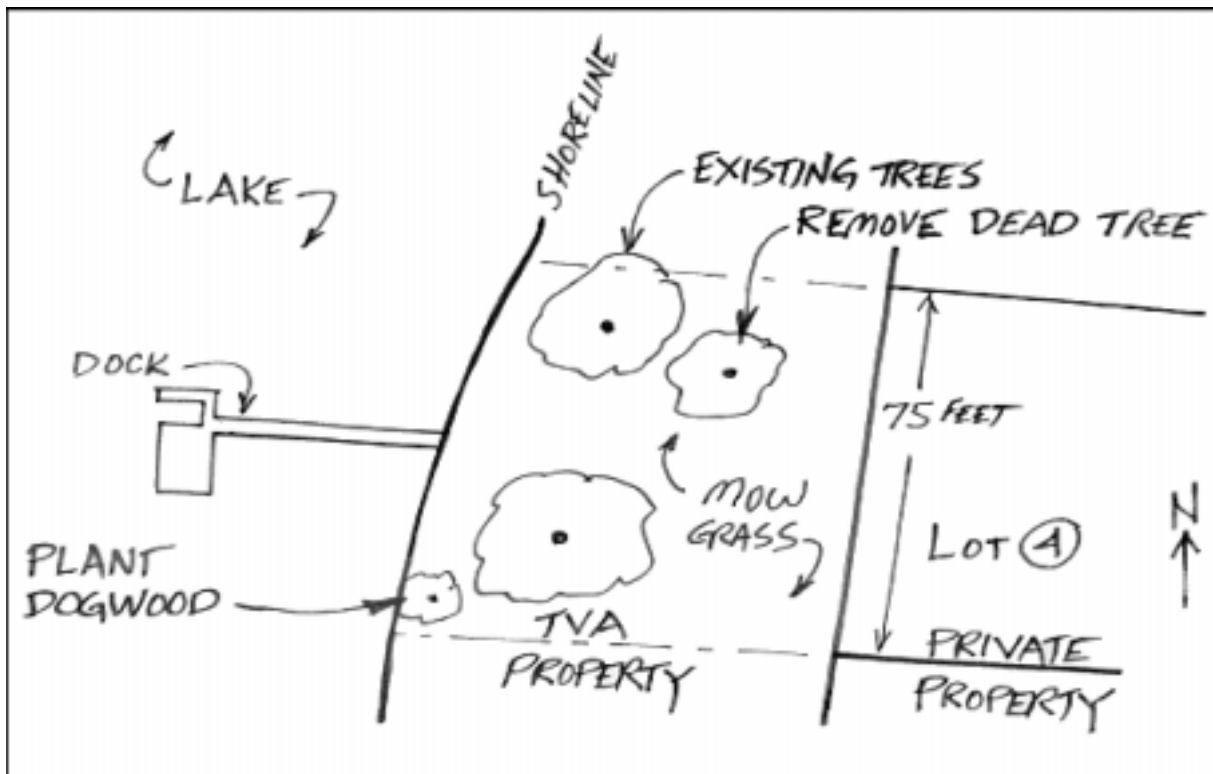
TVA will review your application and inform you if any additional information is needed.



Examples of Vegetation Management Plans on Shorelines Developed Before 11/1/99

A vegetation management plan is needed for permit requests received after November 1, 1999. A complete plan includes: 1) A list of what you propose to do on TVA property, 2) a simple sketch of the area similar to the example below that shows vegetation to be removed or planted, and 3) two or three pictures sufficient to show the general area and the location of vegetation removal.

Example for an established lawn on TVA residential access property existing prior to November 1, 1999. TVA will not require a Shoreline Management Zone or an access corridor in these areas.



Describe what is to be done on TVA property in front of Lot 4:

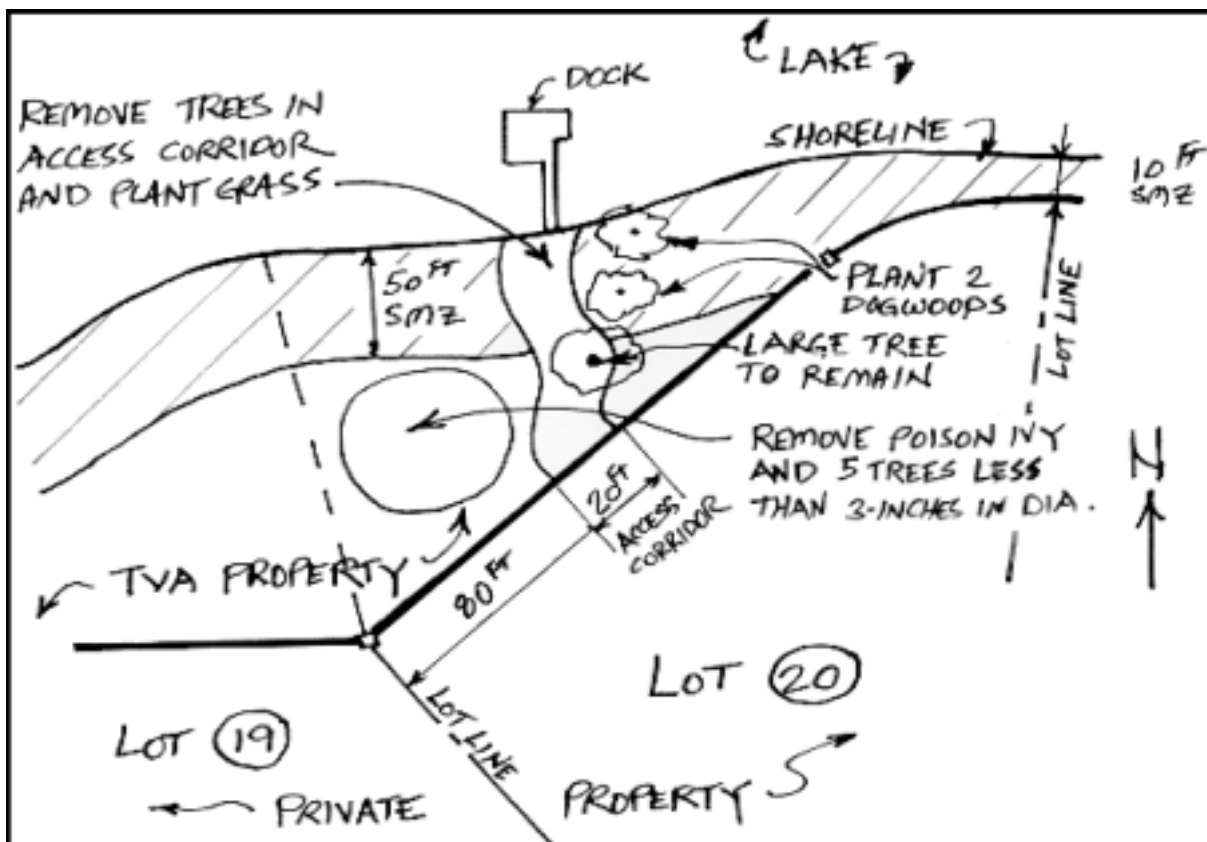
- Remove one dead tree
- Plant one dogwood tree
- Continue to mow grass
- Other trees and bushes to remain



Examples of Vegetation Management Plans on Shorelines Developed After 11/1/99

A complete Vegetation Management Plan for areas developed after November 1, 1999 includes: 1) A list of what you propose to do on TVA property, 2) a simple sketch of the area similar to the example below that shows vegetation to be removed or planted **and** your proposed access/view corridor, and 3) photographs sufficient to show the general area, the location of any vegetation removal and the proposed access corridor.

Example for newly developed areas on TVA residential access property after November 1, 1999. TVA will establish a Shoreline Management Zone (SMZ) and an access/view corridor. The access/view corridor may be up to 20 feet wide and will extend from your lot to the lake. The SMZ will be 50 feet deep along the shoreline or to the extent of the public property, whichever is less. Vegetation within the SMZ must remain in place, except as authorized under a TVA-approved Vegetation Management Plan.



Describe what is to be done on TVA property in front of Lot 20:

- Remove vegetation in access corridor, except for one large tree
- Plant grass in access corridor
- Plant two dogwood trees along the shoreline in the SMZ
- Remove trees and bushes less than three inches in diameter above SMZ
- Other trees and bushes to remain



Please Provide A Sketch Of Your Vegetation Management Plan Here

Remember, a complete vegetation management plan includes: 1) A list of what you propose to do on TVA property, 2) a sketch showing the TVA property in front of your lot, and 3) photographs sufficient to show the general area, the location of any vegetation removal and the proposed access corridor, if applicable.

Describe what is to be done on TVA property in front of your lot:

- Vegetation to be removed: _____
- Vegetation to be planted: _____
- Other construction on TVA property: _____
- Other trees and bushes to remain