



Who Do I Call?

Trees — “Hangers” and “Leaners” after a Storm

After a hurricane, tropical storm or any strong wind storm has blown through Bald Head Island, it’s always a good time to remind property owners about the proper process for handling trees and limbs that may be leaning or have fallen.

1. First, determine if any affected trees are ON YOUR PROPERTY:

- A. If affected trees are on your property and pose an immediate safety hazard that cannot wait, take photographs before and after removal work is completed and email the photos, your BHI address and your contact information to Karen Mosteller, ARC Coordinator, at Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com. **Only** handle trees that are considered an immediate safety hazard that cannot wait for the regular ARC approval process.

When appropriate, owners of forest lots are encouraged to give much needed support to the fragile Bald Head Island ecosystem by allowing felled and broken trees to remain. These trees provide essential habitat for the Island’s insects, birds and wildlife.

- B. If affected trees are on your property but pose no immediate safety hazard, contact Karen Mosteller at 910-457-4676, ext. 22 or Karen@BaldHeadAssociation.com for approval **BEFORE** any trimming or cutting begins. Karen will facilitate the necessary Village approvals with Stephen Boyett.
- C. If limbs and small trees are on your property and meet the Design Guidelines for trimming with no approval, you can proceed. BHA encourages having a natural habitat. The Design Guidelines state, “ARC review and approval is required before the removal of trees 3 inches in diameter measured 48 inches along the trunk from ground level, tree limbs of 3 inches or more in diameter, clustered growth vegetation 2 square feet or more at ground level, regardless of branching habits or diameter of the branches. Within the understory, ARC approval is also required to remove vegetation 1 inch or greater in diameter measured 48 inches along the trunk from ground level.”

2. If any affected trees are NOT on your property:

- A. It’s essential to KNOW YOUR PROPERTY LINES. Your lot may be bordered by BHA Common Area, neighbors, sub-association land or SILT (Smith Island Land Trust) lots. Estimated lot areas can be found on Brunswick County’s GIS map locator.

B. If trees are on **BHA Common Area**:

For example, BHA Common Area may be the area between your lot and the golf course. Property owners cannot trim or cut trees or vegetation on Common Area that is owned by BHA.

If a tree that presents a safety hazard to a structure, walkway or driveway **is on BHA Common Area**, contact Pam Rainey, Customer Relations Associate, at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 (work), 910-477-2956 (cell) or PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com. Pam Rainey will facilitate the request with the BHA Board of Directors and, if approved, will facilitate the work with a BHA-approved vendor. Property owners will be apprised of approval and work status.

C. **If trees are in the drip-line communities of Keeper’s Landing, Sumner’s Crescent and Surfman’s Walk:**

The land outside of the drip-line (the demarcation of where water drips from your property’s roof) in these communities is owned by BHA. Property owners in these communities should not contact landscapers but can instead simply contact BHA staff for tree and vegetation work requests. Maintenance, trimming and removal of trees in these communities are paid for by the annual supplemental dues.

If a tree that presents a safety hazard to a structure, walkway or driveway **is in a BHA-managed drip-line community** (Keeper’s Landing, Sumner’s Crescent and Surfman’s Walk), contact Pam Rainey at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 (work), 910-477-2956 (cell) or PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com. Pam Rainey will facilitate the request and the work with a BHA-approved vendor. Property owners will be apprised of approval and work status.

- D. If tree work is done by property owners on BHA Common Area or BHA-managed drip-line communities, fines will be assessed.

E. If trees are **on sub-association land**:

Trees on sub-association land are owned by the sub-association. And the sub-association president (or their representative) handles tree removal requests with ARC, following the above process for a typical tree removal request. Contact your sub-association president or representative for work requests. For contact information, visit BaldHeadAssociation.com/about-bha and click on “BHA Dues.” Names and contacts for sub-associations are listed on page 5. Sub-associations include: Flora’s Bluff / Killegray Ridge, The Hammocks, Ibis Roost, Lighthouse Landing, Royal James Landing, Sabal Palm Cottages, Timbercreek and The Villas.