



Shoreline Vegetation Removal

Can I remove vegetation on my shoreline designated property?

Do you own property within the Gig Harbor shoreline jurisdiction? All property located 200 feet landward of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) is subject to the Gig Harbor Shoreline Master Program. The map to the right is an unofficial representation of these properties. This client assistance memorandum is intended to inform property owners who wish to remove vegetation unrelated to a development permit in the shoreline jurisdiction.

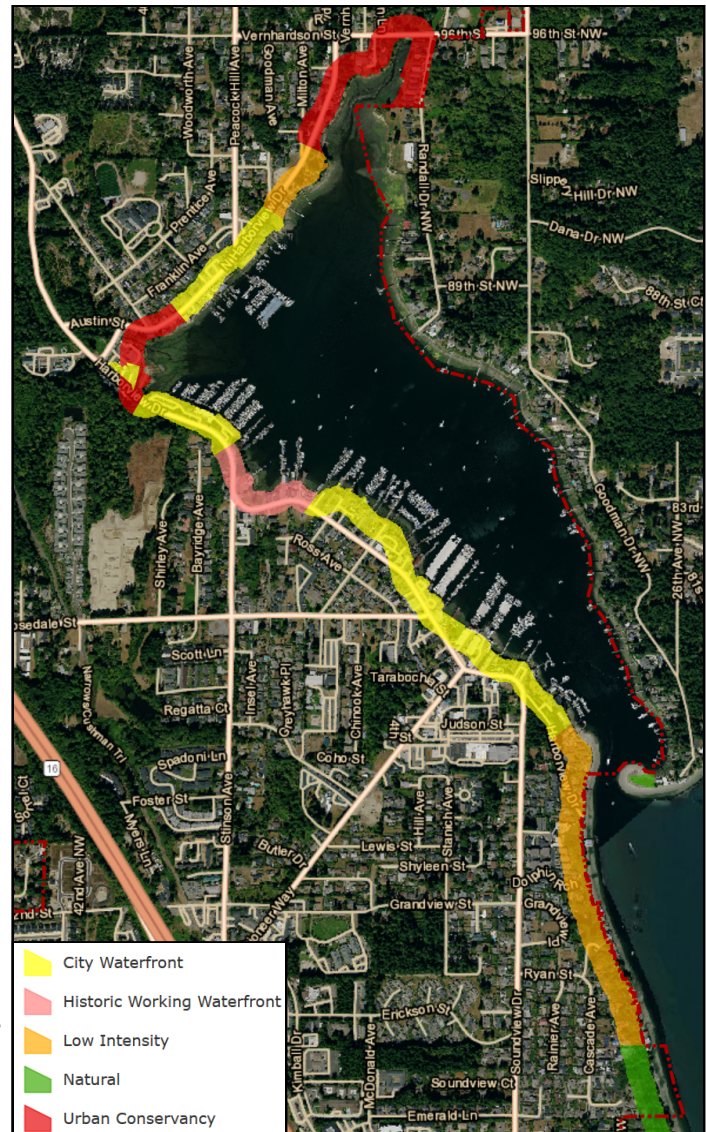
Vegetation removal unrelated to a development permit is **not** definitively "development" in the shoreline, **unless** it:

1. Interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters, or;
2. Includes "grubbing" or root removal, constituting "grading" of the site, or;
3. Exceeds \$7,047 (total cost or fair market value).

Vegetation removal which is considered "development" must be reviewed as part of a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. No vegetation removal in the shoreline, whether development or not, may cause a net loss of ecological function or process.

Do I need a permit?

Yes. The City requires a no-cost vegetation removal permit (PL-TREE) to analyze proposals for such work.



What resources are available to help me through this process?

Great question! The City of Gig Harbor and the Washington Department of Ecology each have helpful resources for navigating vegetation removal in the shoreline designation. Please contact the Planning Division for help accessing the following resources, which are all electronically available on our website:

- Shoreline Master Program • Gig Harbor Substantial Development Permit and Shoreline Exemption Checklist
- No Net Loss of Shoreline Ecological Function Form • Department of Ecology Shoreline Permitting Manual

Call before you cut...Planning is happy to help!

Further Information: If you have any questions please contact the Gig Harbor Planning Division at (253) 851-6170.