

Tree and Palm Removal Rule

A tree or palm with an infectious disease or infestation must be removed. Removal must be completed using practices that best prevent the disease or infestation from spreading to healthy specimens according to current information from UF/IFAS (University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences) Extension.

Reference: WMOA Covenant Conditions and Restrictions, Article VIII, General Restrictions, Section 12. Landscaping

Reference: University of Florida IFAS Extension
<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pp100>

Ganoderma Butt Rot of Palms Procedure

Symptoms

- General decline of palm with wilting, mild to severe, of all leaves except the spear leaf.
- The formation of a conk on the trunk which begins as a white "button" and matures to a shelf or bracket with a half-moon shape extending from the trunk.

If Symptoms Develop

- A palm should be removed once a conk is observed.
- Before work is begun on the tree, the conk(s) should be dislodged, bagged and disposed of in the trash. This will ensure the spores will not be dispersed during the removal process.
- The Ganoderma fungus is generally located in the lower 4-5 feet of the trunk.
- During removal, as much of the lower trunk and root system as possible should be removed intact and placed in a landfill or incinerated.
- Alternatively, if the stump cannot be removed, then it can be ground. Residue should be removed. It should not be chipped and used for mulch.
- Under no circumstances should any infected palm debris be placed in yard waste for re-cycling into the environment.

More information and photos can be found at edis.ifas.ufl.edu

Reference:

Ganoderma Butt Rot of Palms, original publication November 2000. Revised May 2009, June 2012, May 2015, October 2015, and January 2018

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