

**CHAPTER 33.635**  
**CLEARING, GRADING, AND LAND SUITABILITY**

(Added by: Ord. Nos. 175965 and 176333, effective 7/1/02. Amended by Ord. No. 184524, effective 7/1/11.)

Sections:

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**33.635.010 Purpose**

These approval criteria:

- Ensure limits of disturbance are reasonable given infrastructure needs, site conditions, and tree preservation requirements;
- Limit impacts of erosion and sedimentation;
- Protect water quality and aquatic habitat;
- Allow some site development activities to occur before Final Plat approval; and
- Ensure that new lots can be safely developed.

**33.635.020 Where These Approval Criteria Apply**

The approval criteria of this chapter apply to proposals for land divisions in all zones.

**33.635.100 Clearing and Grading Approval Criteria**

The Preliminary Clearing and Grading Plan must meet the following approval criteria:

- A.** Existing contours and drainage patterns of the site must be left intact wherever practicable. Where alteration to existing drainage patterns is proposed, it must not adversely impact adjacent properties by significantly increasing volume of runoff or erosion;
- B.** Clearing and grading should be sufficient for construction of development shown on the Preliminary Clearing and Grading Plan;
- C.** Clearing and grading should be limited to areas of the site that are reasonably necessary for construction of development shown on the Preliminary Clearing and Grading Plan;
- D.** Topsoil must be preserved on site to the extent practicable for use on the site after grading is complete;
- E.** Soil stockpiles must be kept on the site and located in areas designated for clearing and grading as much as is practicable; and
- F.** The limits of disturbance and tree protection measures shown on the Preliminary Clearing and Grading Plan must be adequate to protect trees to be retained on the tree preservation plan.

**33.635.200 Land Suitability Approval Criterion**

Where geologic conditions or historic uses of the site indicate that a hazard may exist, the applicant must show that the proposed land division will result in lots that are suitable for development. The applicant may be required to make specific improvements in order to make the lots suitable for their intended uses and the provision of services and utilities.

