

# Felling and pruning of trees and bushes in the period from 01.03. to 30.09. of each year

You want to cut down a tree or prune bushes on your property?

## Competent Department

- [Die Senatorin für Umwelt, Klima und Wissenschaft | Abtl. 3 | Natur, Wasser](#)

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## Basic information

Authorised users or owners of land must observe the following when felling trees or pruning trees or bushes

In the period from 01.03. to 30.09. of each year the so-called "summer felling ban" applies. Trees, bushes and other woods may not be cut, felled or cleared. A shape and maintenance cut (e.g. of a garden hedge) is permissible.

Important note: In Bremen and Bremerhaven a tree protection regulation applies. For all planned measures on protected trees, an application must be submitted to the nature conservation authorities.

## Procedure

An informal application with the following contents must be submitted:

- Applicant (name and address)
- the land concerned (address/floor and parcel)

- Plant species (e.g. birch, ivy, blackberry bushes, etc.)
- Reasons for felling or pruning
- Information on existing nesting and breeding sites

## Legal bases

- [Bundesnaturschutzgesetz \(BNatSchG\) §39 Absatz 5](#)

## More information

- The Tree Protection Ordinance must be observed!
- Measures to ensure traffic safety which cannot be postponed and cannot be carried out in any other way are permissible without exemption if the tree or bush stands on roads, paths or on property which is entered by persons. The trees or bushes that are to be felled to ensure road safety should, in their own interest, be documented in advance, at least photographically.
- Questions about neighbour rights and trees cannot be answered.

## What are the costs?

94,00 EUR positive reply

47,00 EUR refusal

## Frequently asked Questions

- **When do I have to submit an application if I want to cut down a tree or prune bushes in the period from 01.03. to 30.09. of a year?**

As soon as the felling of a tree or pruning of shrubbery is planned in the period from 01.03. to 30.09. of each year, which is more than a gentle form and maintenance pruning.

Note: An application must always be submitted for trees protected under the Tree Protection Ordinance.

- **How do I submit an application if I want to cut down a tree or prune bushes in the period from 01.03. to 30.09. of a year?**

An application can be made informally. It should contain at least the following information:

- Applicant (name and address),
- Affected property (address/plot and parcel),
- Plant species (e.g. birch, ivy, blackberry bushes, etc.),
- reasons for felling or pruning, and
- Details of any bird nests present.

- **I would like to build. There is a conflict with trees on the building plot. What do I have to do?**

The nature conservation authority will provide information on this in the specific case.

- **Who checks the traffic safety (stability and breakage safety) of a tree?**

Depending on the requirements, a specialist company in gardening and landscaping as well as publicly appointed and sworn experts can be considered for the inspection. The experts can be inquired at the Chamber of Commerce ([www.handelskammer-bremen.de](http://www.handelskammer-bremen.de)) or e.g. the Chamber of Agriculture of Lower Saxony ([www.lwk-niedersachsen.de](http://www.lwk-niedersachsen.de)).

- **When can I cut hedges?**

Ornamental hedges on properties may be trimmed back into shape at any time (careful pruning of one year's growth) if it is ensured that no protected animals are affected.

- **Is it okay to cut overhanging branches from neighboring properties?**

This concerns the neighboring right and requires only in the period from 01.03. to 30.09. a permission by the nature conservation authority. Information on neighboring rights cannot be provided by the nature conservation authority.

Note: An application must always be made for trees that are protected under the Tree Protection Ordinance.