

# STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 23, 2018

RE: **328 Peacon Lane (permit application # T18-8922)**

FROM: Karen DeMaria, City of Key West Urban Forestry Manager

An application was received requesting the removal of **(1) Spanish Lime tree**. A site inspection was done on March 20, 2018 and documented the following:

Tree Species: Spanish Lime (*Melicoccus bijugatus*)











03/20/2018

























03/20/2018





Diameter: 24.5"

Location: 70% (rear corner of property, large canopy tree close by)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 50% (fair, hurricane damage to main branches, at least one branch tear close to main trunk)

Total Average Value = 73%

**Value x Diameter = 17.8 replacement caliper inches**

**Need additional information from arborist who did the recent trimming of the tree to determine actual extent of damage and possible recovery of tree.**



## Karen DeMaria

---

**From:** John Cole <shadetreeservices@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:19 PM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria; THRINAX1 .  
**Subject:** 328 Peacon Lane

Karen, Here are some recent pictures of the Spanish Lime the owner would like to remove. The Tree is struggling and has some new insect activity in the upper crown which is causing cambium separation and deterioration. I am recommending removal and replacement for this situation. The option of a heavy Maintenance pruning to rebalance the canopy doesn't allow for lateral reduction and would only further damage the Tree.

Respectively

John Cole

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



















# Application





CANOPY  
REMOVAL

8922

## Tree Permit Application

Date: 4/17/18

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 328 Pearson lane  
Cross/Corner Street Esron St  
List Tree Name(s) and Quantity 1 Spanish Lime  
Species Type(s) check all that apply ( ) Palm ( ) Flowering ( ☒ ) Fruit ( ) Shade ( ) Unsure  
Reason(s) for Application:  
☒ REMOVE ( ☒ ) Tree Health ( ) Safety ( ) Other/Explain below  
( ) TRANSPLANT ( ) New Location ( ) Same Property ( ) Other/Explain below  
( ) HEAVY MAINTENANCE ( ) Branch Removal ( ) Crown Cleaning/Thinning ( ) Crown Reduction  
Other/Explain Tree Suffered Canopy Damage During  
Hurricane Irma. Balance has been lost  
Reason for Request and upper canopy has insect damage  
Property Owner Name Gwen Espensin  
Property Owner eMail Address gwen@bellsouth.net  
Property Owner Mailing Address 616 Elizabeth St  
Property Owner Mailing City Key West State FL Zip 33040  
Property Owner Phone Number (305) 923-5796  
Property Owner Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Representative Name John Cole Shade Tree Inc  
Representative eMail Address shadetreeservices@yahoo.com  
Representative Mailing Address P.O. Box 1341  
Representative Mailing City Key West State FL Zip 33040  
Representative Phone Number (305) 340-8094

NOTE: A Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany this application if someone other than the owner will be representing the owner at a Tree Commission meeting or picking up an issued Tree Permit.

Tree Representation Authorization form attached ( )

<<<<< Sketch location of tree in this area including cross/corner Street >>>>>



Please identify tree(s) with colored tape

PA  
8/12

If this process requires blocking of a City right-of-way, a separate ROW Permit is required. Please contact 305-809-3740.





## Tree Representation Authorization

Date: 4/17/18

Attendance at the Tree Commission meeting on the date when your request will be discussed is necessary in order to expedite the resolution of your application. This Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany the application if the property owner is unable to attend or will have someone else pick up the Tree Permit once issued.

**Please Clearly Print** All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 328 Person lane

Property Owner Name Gwen Espensen

Property Owner eMail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Mailing City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Phone Number (305) 423-546

Property Owner Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Representative Name John Coker ShadeTree Inc.

Representative eMail Address Shadetreeservice@yahoo.com

Representative Mailing Address PO Box 341

Representative Mailing City Key West State FL Zip 33040

Representative Phone Number (305) 340-8094

I \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize the above listed agent(s) to represent me in the matter of obtaining a Tree Permit from the City of Key West for my property at the tree address above listed. You may contact me at the telephone listed above if there is any questions or need access to my property.

Property Owner Signature Gwen Espensen

The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this 24<sup>th</sup> day April.

By (Print name of Affiant) Gwen Espensen who is personally known to me or has produced fl-drivers license as identification and who did take an oath.

### NOTARY PUBLIC

Sign Name: Megan Miller

Notary Public - State of Florida (seal)

Print Name: Megan Miller

My Commission Expires: Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> 2022







CANOPY  
REMOVAL

8922

## Tree Permit Application

Date: 3-9-18

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

**Tree Address** 328 Peacon Lane, Key West  
**Cross/Corner Street** Eaton  
**List Tree Name(s) and Quantity** Spanish Lime - 1  
**Species Type(s) check all that apply** ( ) Palm ( ) Flowering (X) Fruit ( ) Shade ( ) Unsure  
**Reason(s) for Application:**

☒ **REMOVE** ☒ Tree Health ☒ Safety ☒ Other/Explain below  
( ) **TRANSPLANT** ( ) New Location ( ) Same Property ( ) Other/Explain below  
( ) **HEAVY MAINTENANCE** ( ) Branch Removal ( ) Crown Cleaning/Thinning ( ) Crown Reduction

**Additional Information and Explanation** Tree heavily damaged in Hurricane Irma, large parts of it broke and fell onto neighboring structure. Tree trimmer commented it should be removed and I want that done before it damages again and possibly falls.  
**Property Owner Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Property Owner eMail Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Property Owner Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Property Owner Mailing City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Property Owner Phone Number** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
**Property Owner Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

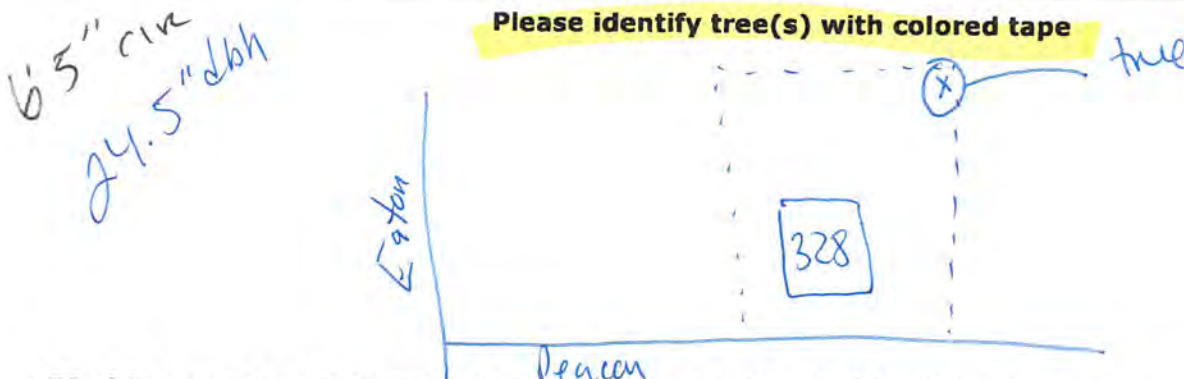
**Representative Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative eMail Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative Mailing City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Representative Phone Number** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

NOTE: A Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany this application if someone other than the owner will be representing the owner at a Tree Commission meeting or picking up an issued Tree Permit.

Tree Representation Authorization form attached ( )

<<<<< Sketch location of tree in this area including cross/corner Street >>>>>

Please identify tree(s) with colored tape



If this process requires blocking of a City right-of-way, a separate ROW Permit is required. Please contact 305-809-3740.



## Karen DeMaria

---

**From:** Gwen Esbensen <gwene@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 11:30 PM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria  
**Subject:** Re: Tree permit application  
**Attachments:** 328 Spanish Lime.JPG; 328 Peacon Spanish Lime tree.JPG

Hi Karen,

Here are a couple photos. Are these sufficient?  
Thank you.

Gwen Esbensen, Realtor Sales Associate  
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
Knight & Gardner Realty  
Ph 305-923-5196  
gwene@bellsouth.net  
www.keysrealestate.com

---

**From:** Karen DeMaria <kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>  
**To:** Gwen Esbensen <gwene@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2018 9:26 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Tree permit application

Do you have photos of the pieces that came down to include into the file? Any documentation for the file?

The application will be placed on the April 9 Tree Commission meeting agenda. Somebody must attend the meeting to represent the property and tree, will that be you?

Sincerely,

Karen

---

**From:** Gwen Esbensen [mailto:gwene@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2018 8:31 AM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria <kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>  
**Subject:** Tree permit application

Karen,

Please find the attached application for removal of a (non fruiting) Spanish Lime Tree in the back corner of 328 Peacon Lane. It was heavily damaged in Hurricane Irma and large chunks of it came down on neighboring property/structures. I do believe it is a safety hazard.



Peacen Lane









## Karen DeMaria

---

**From:** Gwen Esbensen <gwene@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:17 AM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria  
**Subject:** Re: tree removal application--please complete ASAP

Hi Karen,  
Thank you for your email. I would like to move my application to the May meeting instead.  
Thank you.

**Gwen Esbensen, Realtor Sales Associate**  
**Berkshire Hathaway Home Services**  
**Knight & Gardner Realty**  
**Ph 305-923-5196**  
**gwene@bellsouth.net**  
**www.keysrealestate.com**

---

**From:** Karen DeMaria <kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>  
**To:** Gwen Esbensen <gwene@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 4:07 PM  
**Subject:** RE: tree removal application--please complete ASAP

Yes, the meeting is Monday, April 9 at 5 p.m. The next meeting after that is Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Please let me know asap if you can not attend the April meeting as I am finalizing the agenda tomorrow morning.

Also, who were the guys that trimmed the tree. It would be helpful to have a written comment from them regarding why they think the tree should be removed.

Sincerely,

Karen

**From:** Gwen Esbensen [mailto:gwene@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 2:45 PM  
**To:** Karen DeMaria <kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: tree removal application--please complete ASAP

Hi Karen,  
Oh, I see where I didn't complete the application. I had already filled out the other permit for the extension and was thinking it could just be connected to that same owner name, etc. I will get this filled out and completed. Thanks.

As far as having an arborist heavily trim it, when I had the tree guys trim the debris and broken areas after the Irma storm, they commented that the tree will need to be removed at some point soon because of its condition. I would prefer to have it removed now, particularly because it is easy to get



equipment back there vs after we renovate it will be very difficult to get heavy equipment necessary to do anything to it. Starting with a fresh tree that gets tended to properly makes much more sense and makes sense for safety reasons.

When is the next Tree Commission beyond April 9th? I may have a conflict with that date and was going to email you today inquiring about this. I plan to represent myself since I have not hired anyone recently to deal with this tree.

Thank you. I hope you are doing OK since Irma.

**Gwen Esbensen, Realtor Sales Associate**  
**Berkshire Hathaway Home Services**  
**Knight & Gardner Realty**  
**Ph 305-923-5196**

[gwene@bellsouth.net](mailto:gwene@bellsouth.net)

[www.keysrealestate.com](http://www.keysrealestate.com)

---

**From:** Karen DeMaria <[kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov](mailto:kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov)>  
**To:** Gwen Esbensen <[gwene@bellsouth.net](mailto:gwene@bellsouth.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 1:38 PM  
**Subject:** tree removal application--please complete ASAP

Gwen:

Please fill out the attached application completely and return to my office ASAP.

Are you representing the tree at the Tree Commission meeting or is someone one else? Have you discussed with an arborist the possibility of a heavy maintenance trim of the tree instead of removal?

Sincerely,

Karen

Karen DeMaria  
Urban Forestry Manager/Tree Commission  
Certified Arborist  
305-809-3768