



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
33325 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Federal Way, WA 98003  
253-835-2607; Fax 253-835-2609  
[www.cityoffederalway.com](http://www.cityoffederalway.com)

## FOREST PRACTICES CLASS IV-GENERAL

The City of Federal Way assumed jurisdiction over the review and approval of Class IV-General Forest Practices on May 11, 2009. Class IV-General Forest Practices within the City of Federal Way are timber harvests associated with the conversion of forested land to developed land when more than 5000 board feet of merchantable timber is harvested from an area or property.

### **When is a Class IV-General Forest Practices Application required?**

A forest practices application form must be submitted whenever more than 5000 board feet of merchantable timber is harvested from an area or property. This is approximately equal to one log truck of timber.

### **What is the Forest Practices Application review process?**

- The City of Federal Way will review the proposed Class IV-General Forest Practices in conjunction with SEPA review and review of associated City of Federal Way development permits or approvals. Forest practices are reviewed subject to the requirements of *Federal Way Revised Code* (FWRC) Chapter 19.120 “Clearing, Grading, and Tree and Vegetation Retention.” Refer to the “Clearing and Grading Regulations” and, “Tree and Vegetation Retention Requirement” handouts for more information.
- A copy of the forest practices application form is also routed to the Washington State Department of Revenue (DOR), as forest practices are subject to a forest excise tax at time of harvest.<sup>1</sup> For more information about the forest excise tax, contact the DOR Forest Tax Program at 1-800-548-8829, or <http://dor.wa.gov>.
- Forest practices are approved as part of the applicable building or land development permit. No forest practices can commence prior to engineering approval of proposed clearing grading and tree and vegetation retention activities (which include all forest practices) and issuance of official “Notice to Proceed.” The city determines readiness to proceed based on a number of criteria that can be found in FWRC 19.120.060(2).

---

<sup>1</sup> Please note: all timber harvests where timber is for sale, or for commercial or industrial use, are subject to the forest tax, whether or not they are Class IV-General. Contact the DOR for more information.