

ABOUT US

Legal Services of North Florida provides free legal assistance to eligible low income persons in civil matters.

We do **not** provide legal assistance in CRIMINAL or traffic matters.

LSNF offers free educational discussions and informative brochures regarding the areas of law we practice. Call your local office for more information. LSNF offices are listed on the back of this brochure.



www.LSNF.org



850-385-9007

OFFICES

FRANKLIN, JEFFERSON, LEON, & WAKULLA COUNTIES:

2119 Delta Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-9007

CALHOUN, GADSDEN, JACKSON, & LIBERTY COUNTIES:

121 North Jackson Street
Quincy, FL 32351
(850) 875-9881

BAY, GULF, HOLMES, & WASHINGTON COUNTIES:

211 East 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32401
(850) 769-3581

OKALOOSA & WALTON COUNTIES:

133 Staff Drive, NE
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
(850) 862-3279

ESCAMBIA & SANTA ROSA COUNTIES:

1741 North Palafox Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
(850) 432-8222

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or in-person!

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WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT



FALLEN TREES & DAMAGE



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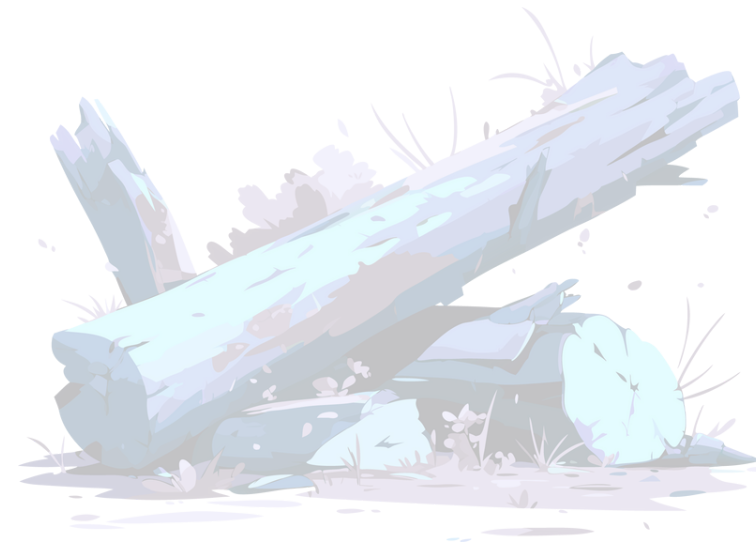


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1

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE AND CLEANUP WHEN MY NEIGHBOR'S TREE FALLS INTO MY YARD?

It may depend on the situation. If the tree was healthy and fell due to a natural cause like a storm, your neighbor is usually not responsible. In most cases, you would have to handle the cleanup and repair yourself or through your own homeowner's insurance.



2

WHAT IF THE TREE WAS DEAD OR IN BAD CONDITION AND MY NEIGHBOR IGNORED IT?

If the tree was clearly dead, diseased or dangerous – and your neighbor knew about it or should have known – they may be held responsible for the damage. This can include situations where others warned about the tree's condition.

3

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF SOMEONE "KNEW OR SHOULD HAVE KNOWN" ABOUT A TREE'S RISK?

- ✓ The tree looked like it was dying, dead or weak.
- ✓ The tree leaned heavily or had large cracks.
- ✓ Others (like neighbors, landscapers or inspectors) told the owner about the risk.

4

HOW DOES HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE RESPOND TO TREE-RELATED DAMAGE?

For healthy trees that fall in storm, the damaged homeowner files a claim under their own insurance policy. If the tree was unhealthy or hazardous and the tree owner ignored it, the neighbor's insurance might seek reimbursement from the tree owner.

5

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF FROM LIABILITY OR DAMAGE?

Inspect trees regularly, especially before hurricane or storm season.

Act promptly to remove trees that are diseased or unstable.

Document communications with neighbors, landscapers or HOA about tree safety issues.

