

EUFAULA LAKE
VEGETATION MODIFICATION GUIDELINES
(Not to be used as authorization to perform work)
13 JUNE 2013

Grass cutting, tree trimming, underbrushing, brush hogging, and all other-related work performed on Corps property must have prior written approval from the Corps of Engineers. The approval is granted with a vegetation modification permit, issued based on the Eufaula Lake Shoreline Management Plan, a summary of the conditions is listed below:

(1) **Shoreline Use Permits**. An application must be made to the Lake Manager for a permit prior to modification of vegetation on the lakeshore. See the Eufaula Lake Shoreline Management Plan for a complete list of permit conditions. A charge of \$30.00 for a five-year Shoreline Use Permit covers the above activities. Please make your check payable to: **FAO, USAED, TULSA** and mail to Eufaula Lake Office, 102 E. BK 200 Rd, Stigler, OK 74462.

(2) **Vegetation Modification**. Within the areas of the lake designated for “limited development” by the Eufaula Lake Shoreline Management Plan, vegetation modification permits may be issued. Vegetation modification permits will be issued allowing the modification of vegetation in an area from the private property line to the shoreline vegetation buffer and within the width of the private property extended onto public land. Where significant wildlife habitat or scenic/aesthetic areas occur, requests for vegetation modification permits may be denied or additional restrictions may be included on the permit. **AT NO TIME** is vegetation modification allowed into the lake bed during low water conditions. No work is allowed below the conservation pool elevation of 585 AMSL.

(a) Each vegetation modification permit issued will require the permittee to install and maintain a 5” x 7” permit sign. Marker posts must also be maintained along the common private/Corps boundary. The permittee must pick up their furnished permit sign and post at the Eufaula Lake Office and install same within 15 days after issuance of the permit. Failure to display the permit sign shall be grounds for revocation of the permit.

(b) No flowering trees or shrubs such as dogwood or redbud may be removed regardless of size. Trees and shrubs larger than 3 inches in diameter (measured at ground level) may not be removed.

(c) Within mowing areas, lawn mowers, weed eaters, and chain saws can be utilized to cut brush provided they do not damage the remaining vegetation. At no time, shall a dozer or any other dirt-moving equipment be used on public property.

(d) The furnished Shoreline Use Permit sign must be posted at the location designated by the Corps of Engineers.

(e) Trimming of tree limbs to 1/3 of the trees’ height or a maximum of 8 feet will be permitted in conjunction with vegetation modification permits. A woodcutting permit for trees that are dead and down can be obtained free of charge from the Lake Office. Only dead, standing trees that present a potential hazard to a permanent structure on private property will be approved for removal. Dead trees must have been previously inspected by a ranger before any trees can be cut.

(3) **Shoreline Vegetation Buffer**. A shoreline vegetation buffer is a strip of land between the natural vegetation adjacent to the shoreline and private property forty-five feet in width where only limited trimming of trees and shrubs is allowed. Modification of grass and non-woody vegetation is prohibited in this buffer. Trees and other woody vegetation within the shoreline vegetation buffer may be trimmed in accordance with the tree trimming guidelines of the vegetation modification permit.

(a) **Pre-existing vegetation modification permits** that were properly permitted before the implementation of the 2013 Shoreline Management Plan will continue with regards to the extent of area allowed for modification and without implementing the shoreline buffer requirements **until November 1, 2018**. On this date, all vegetation modification permits will include a shoreline buffer area as described above where only limited trimming of woody vegetation may occur.

(4) **Burning**. Burning is not allowed on government property. Those wishing to burn dead and down trees or other brush must remove the materials to be burned off of Corps property and onto private property before burning.