

Post-Removal Drainage Checklist

What to watch for after a tree comes out

In the first season

1 Watch the old root zone after rain

Note whether the ground right where the tree stood stays soft or holds water longer than the rest of the yard.

2 Check low corners and fence lines

Look for runoff collecting somewhere it did not seem to before.

3 Note how quickly grass or ground cover fills back in

Bare soil sheds water differently than established turf.

Steps that help the transition

1 Light regrading away from the house

Direct water away from the foundation rather than letting it settle near the old stump.

2 Reseed or replant the bare area promptly

New roots start taking over some of the infiltration work sooner than leaving soil bare.

3 Have the stump ground rather than left in place

A ground stump area is easier to grade evenly than one left standing.

Questions to ask before the crew arrives

1 Ask whether grading and removal can be planned together

Sequencing both at once avoids fixing the same spot twice.

2 Ask what happens to the stump and root mass

Clarify whether grinding is included or a separate step.

3 Ask what to expect for the specific spot the tree stood

Every lot's soil and slope respond a little differently.

Plan the drainage question and the tree work together, not one after the other.

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