



To protect your right to harvest your trees in the future it is best to register these trees with the MiAmbiente forest registry when you plant.

This ensures that you will be able to cut trees from your plantation when you want and without paying any fees. There are numerous economic benefits associated with registering, such as tax reductions.

To register your plantation the cost is \$43 USD. If your plantation is registered you may harvest multiple times free of charge. Simply alert MiAmbiente of your intention to harvest and they will provide a free inspection.

Farmers and landowners who have not registered must pay \$33 USD each time they want to harvest. Non-registered plantations do not benefit from the financial incentives provided by the tree registry.

CONTACTS FOR TREE PLANTING

Pedasí: Miguel Batista (6706-6707)

Las Tablas: Forest registry Engineer Dilsa Barrios (994-7313)

Planting and harvest regulations Forestry Department (500-0855 ext 6070)

This eco-guide is a living document. If there are any errors, comments or clarifications to this info please contact Azuero Earth Project in person, by email, or phone:

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TREE PLANTING

A GUIDE ON RIGHTS TO TREE PLANTING & HARVESTING



DOCUMENTS TO REGISTER PLANTED TREES

For areas smaller than 2 hectares:

1. Letter (memorial petitorio) written to the MiAmbiente office requesting inscription into the MiAmbiente forestry registry with personal and farm information
2. Copy of property title, copy of the rights of possession, or copy of the certificate of public record
3. Copy of identification of all property owners and co-owners
4. Payment of *paz y salvo* (\$3 USD)
5. Inspection done by MiAmbiente technician after property owner delivers all information
6. Payment (\$40 USD) to MiAmbiente for administrative and inspection services

For areas larger than 2 hectares, you need the same items listed above along with:

1. Reforestation plan elaborated and signed by a forestry engineer. Contacts for local engineers are available at your regional MiAmbiente office
2. Geo-referenced map of the planted area (CD) - this should also be done and signed by a forest engineer

After registering you will receive a document that summarizes trees registered. **Store this document in a safe place and make copies of this document**



PERMITS TO HARVEST NON-REGISTERED TREES

To cut a tree that was never registered, a landowner must obtain a permit from the local or regional MiAmbiente office each time (s)he would like to harvest. The permit requires:

1. MiAmbiente inspection
2. Payment of *paz y salvo* (\$3 USD)
3. \$30 USD fee per harvest
4. Copy of identification (*cédula*) of all property owners
5. Copy of property title
6. For every tree cut, the property owner must plant 10 trees with a 70% survival rate. Note: this is only if the tree grew naturally and was NOT planted

MiAmbiente issues three types of permits:
NECESSARY, DOMESTIC AND SUBSISTENCE

All permits have one month of validity from their date of issue. For all three permits \$3 *paz y salvo* will be charged

1. **Permit for necessary cutting:** required to cut trees that pose an imminent threat or that are in a site where a house will be constructed
2. **Permit for domestic use:** required to cut trees for use within the family in furniture making, saddles, home construction etc.
3. **Permit for subsistence cutting:** required for wood that will be sold. In addition to *paz y salvo* the landowner pays per cubic meter (either \$10 or \$15 meter cubed depending on the value of the wood)

HELPFUL TIPS FOR SMALL LANDOWNERS

The challenge for landowners to cut trees is to prove they planted those trees. The first step is to register the trees with MiAmbiente. Also having a good relationship with technicians and giving them updates in forms of pictures and memos that are stamped as received especially when there are new employees, such as after an election, is helpful.