



PIMA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
201 N. STONE AVENUE  
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## PIMA COUNTY NATIVE PLANT PRESERVATION SET ASIDE METHOD SUBMITTAL GUIDELINES FOR SINGLE RESIDENTIAL LOTS

### **Why it is important to preserve Native Plants?**

Native plants and plant communities provide a sense of place and help define our region's identity, which contributes to economic development by attracting tourism, and new businesses. Native plants enhance community appearance, which promotes and sustains property values, improves quality of life, and supports lifestyles, which the community values and enjoys. Native Plants contribute to the stabilization of desert soils, decrease erosion, and promote water conservation because no supplemental irrigation is required.

### **When is a Native Plant Preservation Plan Required?**

A Native Plant Preservation Plan (NPPP) is required if the total of existing and proposed disturbance/grading on any lot exceeds 14,000 square feet, the total lot area is larger than 36,000 square feet, **or** if required by a subdivision plat.

### **What is the Set Aside Method?**

The set aside method is one of 3 methods according to the Pima County Zoning Code that can be used to comply with the Native Plant Preservation Ordinance. It is the **ONLY** method acceptable for Single Lot Residential NPPO compliance that does not require certification by a plant professional; however, if there is any doubt in the applicant's ability to identify protected native plants, the submittal must be prepared by a qualified plant professional.

In order to comply with this method, 30% of the subject property shall be **set aside in perpetuity as Natural Open Space (NOS) to remain undisturbed** and shall include the area of **highest resource value** such as riparian habitat, washes, and areas of dense vegetation.

Saguaros, Ironwoods, and Safeguarded Species which occur outside of the designated 30% Natural Open Space shall be inventoried, given a disposition and mitigated for according to Chapter 18.72 of the Pima County Zoning Code.

### **Submit the following information:**

1. The Grading Limits including areas for the leach field and reserve.
2. Clearly defined limits of Natural Open Space, labeled as NOS.
3. Locations of Saguaros, Ironwoods, and Safeguarded Species along with heights or calipers, and disposition ("TOS": Transplant On Site, "PIP": Preserve In Place, or "RFS": Remove From Site), which occur **OUTSIDE OF NOS** (including within the grading limits).
4. Mitigation Table with calculations for species designated as TOS or RFS.
5. Proposed location of supplemental plants required for mitigation **or** provide a note on the site plan indicating that mitigation will take place outside of the NOS.

Pima County Zoning Code -  
Native Plant Preservation Ordinance Chapter 18.72

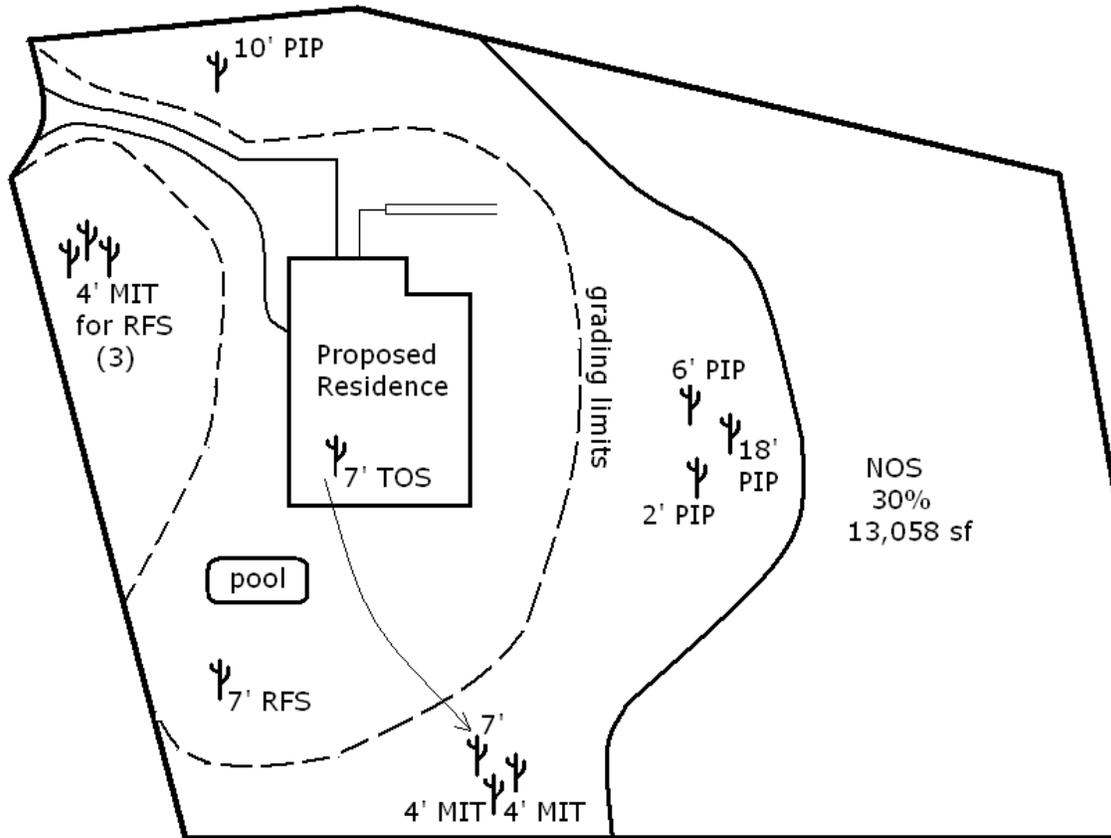
**TABLE 18.72.040-1B  
ARIZONA SAFEGUARDED SPECIES\***

<b>NO.</b>	<b>GENUS</b>	<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>VARIATION</b>	<b>COMMON NAME</b>
E	Agave	arizonica		Arizona agave
E	Amsonia	kearneyana		Kearney's blue-star
T	Asclepias	welshii		Welsh's milkweed
E	Astragalus	cremnophylax	cremnophylax	Sentry milk-vetch
T	Carex	specuicola		Navajo sedge
E	Coryphantha	scheeri	robustispina	Pima pineapple cactus
T	Coryphantha	robbinsorum		Cochise pincushion cactus
T	Cycladenia	humilis	jonesii	Jones cycladenia
E	Echinocactus	horizonthalonius	nicholii	Nichol's Turk's head cactus
E	Echinocereus	triglochidiatus	arizonicus	Arizona hedgehog cactus
E	Lilaeopsis	schaffneriana	recurva	Huachuca water-umbel
E	Pediocactus	bradyi		Brady pincushion cactus
T	Pediocactus	sileri		Siler pincushion cactus
E	Pediocactus	peeblesianus	peeblesianus	Peebles Navajo cactus
E	Purshia	subintegra		Arizona cliffrose
T	Senecio	franciscanus		San Francisco Peaks groundsel
E	Spiranthes	delitescens		Canelo Hills ladies' tresses

\* As approved by the Department of the Interior in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973

(Ord. 1998-39 § 1 (part), 1998)

Example Preservation Plan



- ❑ Superimpose all saguaros, ironwoods and safeguarded species located OUTSIDE of the Natural Open Space (NOS), in ink, on a COPY of the grading plan, including specimens within the grading limits.
- ❑ Provide the heights/calipers, and the intended disposition of each individual:
  - "PIP": Preserved In Place
  - "TOS": Transplanted On Site
  - "RFS": Removed From Site
  - "MIT": Mitigation Planting
- ❑ Show intended location for each transplanted specimen, as well as any mitigation plantings required.
- ❑ Information on the species may be provided in a table, with references to individual plants.
- ❑ Clearly define the limits and area of the Natural Open Space (NOS)

