



North Naples woman worries tall trees may damage her home during storms

[Anchor: Russ McCaskey](#)

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A Naples woman worries about the tall trees in her neighbor's yard that could fall onto her property during a storm. This concern was highlighted at a WINK Listens event in North Naples.

Ania Graves, who lives in Naples, shared her fears about the trees in her neighbor's yard.

"I'm scared. Every year we have a hurricane, and you know these trees can come right through my house," said Graves.

Graves identified the trees as Australian pines, noting their proximity to power lines and her property. She attended our WINK Listens event in Collier County with photos and hoped for assistance.

"I don't want the trees to be cut. I want them to be trimmed. But Florida Power and Light says no. Cable says no, and the county says no. What can I do?" said Graves.

Despite contacting various agencies and even the real estate company that owns the neighboring property, Graves has received no response or action.

"I call my insurance. The insurance says you need to plan if something happens, but you know we cannot do anything yearly. Three or four times, I called the county, and they constantly say we cannot do anything," said Graves.

WINK News took these concerns to real estate experts to clarify what Florida law dictates regarding property owner rights.

"The first question is, what was the condition of the trees?" asked a real estate attorney, Kevin Jursinski.

Jursinski, who does not represent either party in this situation, explained Florida's legal stance.

"The whole goal in Florida is that they try to do a balancing act that you have the right to have things on your property, but if those things on your property are foreseeable and cause damage to someone else's property, you are liable for that damage," said Jursinski.

According to Jursinski, property owners can trim branches or cut roots that encroach on their property. However, if a tree is dying or poses a risk of falling, it should be reported to make the neighbor liable for any damage.

Graves emphasized her desire for the trees to be trimmed for the safety of everyone involved.

"I don't want it for me. I don't want it for my neighbors. I don't even want it for the renters because I care for my neighbors," said Graves.

Florida Power and Light contacted WINK News, saying that crews will come and trim the trees.