



Planning & Development Services Dept.

17500 Midvale Avenue North
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
(206) 801-2500 ♦ Fax (206) 546-8761

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #000049 051700

CODE INTERPRETATION

CODE SECTION: 20.50.100, IRC

ISSUE:

Are tree houses subject to building code?

DECISION:

“The tree house, which consists of 2 floors with no walls or roof, does not appear to be regulated by the IRD or the zoning code and is most directly related to a ‘playhouse.’ We have found the tree house to fall under the ‘work exempt from permit’ section of the International Residential Code (Section R105), as long as it is under 200 square feet. The zoning code is silent on the issue of tree houses.”

Director Approval Date:

May 17, 2000 by Bridget Smith, Building Official, *updated September, 2009*