

Landscaping and Tree Preservation

Previous to any construction activity, an Environmental Inventory shall be conducted to identify existing trees and vegetation that shall remain undisturbed during construction.

Preservation of Existing Vegetation

The existing vegetation shall be preserved whenever feasible. The decision to preserve trees shown on the environmental inventory shall be made jointly by the Planning Director, developer and design team during the project approval process.

When selecting which trees to preserve, the following shall be considered: existing and proposed grading; age, condition and type of tree; and location of site improvements and utility connections.

Trenching, placing backfill in the critical root zone (CRZ), driving or parking equipment in the CRZ, and dumping of trash, oil, paint or other materials detrimental to plant health in close proximity of the trees to be preserved is prohibited.

Should any tree designated for preservation in the landscape plan die, the owner shall replace it within 180 days with landscaping equal to what would be required in this ordinance.

Preservation of existing vegetation during construction

Protective barricades shall be placed around all trees and vegetated areas designated to be saved, prior to the start of development activities or grading. Protective barricades shall remain in place until development activities are complete. The area within the protective barricade shall remain free of all building materials, stockpiled soil or other construction debris. Construction traffic, storage of vehicles and materials, and grading shall not take place within

the protective areas of the existing trees. Barricades shall be erected at a recommended minimum distance from the base of protected trees according to the following standards:

- a. For trees 10" or less diameter at breast height (DBH): Protective barricades shall be placed a minimum distance of 10' from the base of each protected tree, or outside the dripline, whichever is greater.
- b. For trees greater than 10" DBH: Protective barricades shall be placed at a minimum distance equal to 10' from the base of a protected tree plus an additional 1' for each additional 1" DBH, or outside the dripline, whichever is greater.

Landscaping

Requirements for Landscaping at Streets

Except along a rural road, alley, or the park side of a parkway, trees shall be planted wherever a new street right-of-way is constructed, or where new construction occurs along an existing street right-of-way.

Trees shall consist of one large maturing tree per 40 linear feet, minimum. Existing trees may be applied toward the requirements.

For large canopy trees such as willow oaks and red maples, a wider planting strip may be required. Eight feet is the preferred width for these species.

Parking Lots – Perimeter Landscaping

Perimeter landscape area shall be a minimum of 8" in width adjacent to all parking spaces and travel areas. Screening within this area shall be provided by installing continuous row or staggered row of medium evergreen shrubs planted 5' on center.

Landscaping along a right-of-way shall consist of a row of small shrubs or a three foot high masonry wall. At sidewalks with extensive pedestrian use, the masonry wall, installed at the back of the sidewalk is preferred.