

SECTION A-1200. Parkway tree planting regulations.

The following shall govern the furnishing and planting of parkway trees:

- A. Location of planting sites. All plantings will be made on City parkways at various addresses or block/lot numbers. Contractors are responsible for all JULIE locates. The City will stake or mark the curbing or sidewalk for the location of the new plantings. All trees must be centered in the parkway at that point unless otherwise directed. Planting will be done in the Spring and Fall only.
- B. Communication. The contractor must notify the City's Engineering and Building Department before commencing work. Failure to do so will result in a stop-work order.
- C. Tagging of trees. The City reserves the right to tag all trees before digging. Trees should not be transplanted from a distance greater than 50 miles from the City of Crystal Lake. The City shall not be required to accept any delivered trees, which in the opinion of the Director of Public Works or his authorized representatives do not meet specifications.
- D. Final acceptance of trees. Approval of trees during tagging shall not be construed as final acceptance. The City reserves the right to additionally reject trees at the final planting site under the following conditions:
 1. If tagged trees are missing the actual tags that were placed by the City.
 2. If the trees are found to be injured or in poor condition (including dry or cracked root balls).
 3. If, after the ball wrapping materials are unwrapped from the top of the root ball, the root flare (the point where the roots flare out from the trunk) is deeper than two inches from existing grade.

In each case, the City shall not be financially liable in any way for rejected trees, even if they have already been planted.
- E. Leaning trees. All Contractors will guarantee that the new planting will remain plumb for two years after planting, or they are required to return and straighten and stake the tree as necessary. The guide wires must have appropriate warning flags.
- F. Guarantee. Trees furnished are to include planting and a minimum two-year warranty. All trees that die or fail to grow adequately in the opinion of the City Staff within two years after planting must be replaced the same or the following planting season. The replacement tree shall also be covered by a successive two-year guarantee. Total contract amount shall be retained by the City in the form of bond until the end of the guarantee period, for purposes of insuring performance during the guarantee period.
- G. Specifications for parkway trees.
 1. All trees shall have a diameter of 2 1/2 inches or greater, measured at a point six inches above the root flare.
 2. All trees must be nursery grown within a radius of 50 miles of the City of Crystal Lake, Illinois.

3. All trees shall have straight trunks and be uniformly shaped with good full branching and well-developed root systems. All trees shall be free from insects and disease, broken branches and bark scrapes. All shade trees must have one dominant leader split or secondary leaders are not allowed.
 4. All tree roots shall be balled and burlapped with a minimum ball size of 24 inches diameter. Balls shall be intact at the time of planting.
 5. Trees shall be true to name as specified.
 6. Trees shall be freshly dug. No heeled-in plants or plants from cold storage will be accepted.
- H. Transportation and handling.
1. The Contractor will transport the trees to the planting sites. All trees will be covered during transport to reduce water loss through transpiration.
 2. Planting material shall be handled in a manner as to cause the least amount of damage during the planting process.
 3. Balled and burlapped plants shall always be handled by the soil ball. Plants shall not under any circumstance be dragged, lifted or pulled by the trunk or foliage parts in a manner that will loosen the roots in the ball.
 4. On the job site, plants should be handled, secured or covered so as to prevent damage from wind and vibration. Plants shall never be thrown or bounced off a truck or loader to the ground.
 5. Plant material shall be planted the day it is taken to planting site, or it shall be watered and/or covered and placed in a shady area to prevent drying out or freezing.
- I. Digging planting hole.
1. All planting holes shall be dug circular in outline.
 2. Depth of holes shall be such that the bottom of the root ball will be placed on undisturbed subgrade, and the root flare shall be at or one inch above the grade of the surrounding soil.
 3. Width of holes at the soil surface shall be twice the diameter of the root ball, with sides sloping inward towards the bottom of the root ball (see planting detail).
 4. Excavated plant pit that will be left open when work is not in progress or pose an immediate and considerable hazard to traffic shall be adequately barricaded with qualified warning devices. No planting pit may remain open in excess of 24 hours.
- J. Placement of tree/unwrapping ball.
1. The tree shall be placed plumb in the center of the hole.
 2. All ropes, strings, nails and burlap wrapping shall be removed from the upper one-third of the root ball after the tree has been placed in the hole.
- K. Backfilling/watering/pruning.

1. In most instances, the backfill around the ball shall be the same soil that was removed from the hole. However, in cases where excessive clay, rocks, stones, etc. are encountered, topsoil shall be used.
 2. A shallow "saucer" of soil, approximately three inches to four inches high shall be formed just inside the edge of each planting hole to serve as a water reservoir.
 3. Any excess soil or debris shall be removed from the planting site immediately upon completion of planting each individual tree.
 4. When approximately two-thirds of the planting pit has been backfilled, the hole shall be watered so as to settle the soil around all of the roots. After the water has been absorbed, the planting pit shall be filled with the planting soil, tamped lightly to grade, and watered thoroughly again, any further settlement shall be brought to grade with additional planting soil. Contractor shall supply all watering equipment. Trees planted in an empty lot or retention pond must be watered by Contractor for at least one year.
 5. Initial pruning shall be corrective only and done by the contractor at the time of planting.
- L. Approved species.
1. Average City blocks shall have no more than 33% of any one species of tree. The planting of one species exclusively is not allowed because of the possibility of an epidemic.
 2. Approved species list is included in Appendix Section A-1000.
 3. No ash or elm species shall be planted in City parkways until further notice.
- M. Inspection. City staff shall inspect plantings on the day of plant material installation, one year after planting and at two years after planting.