



Artificial Turf and Tree Protection

04/01/2024

Artificial Turf and Tree Protection per Chapter 27

The tree protection is a requirement of the Technical Manual, which cannot be waived. See below for information regarding the requirements. Also included is information from Section 27-43 (definitions) for clarification. Further, per Section 27-284.3.3, there is a 25% of the lot area requirement for green space to be provided on the site and the tree protection zone helps provide for that.

Technical Manual A.2. TREE PROTECTION DETAILS

Protection Standards for Construction Activities proximate to Protective Root Zone (Secs. 27-43, 27-284.2)

Specific Conditions

- i. protection standards shall be met for all protected trees, prior to commencement of any construction activities on a development site and/or in public or private right-of-way, in accordance with the tree protection graphics below.
- ii. No changes to the predevelopment conditions within the approved protective root zone during the construction process.
- iii. Protective barricades may be removed only to prepare the development site for final landscaping activities. During this activity only non-mechanical techniques may occur within the designated protective root zone. No alteration(s), of any kind, shall be made to any part of the tree (roots, trunk, canopy/crown), other than those that are approved by the Natural Resources Coordinator or designee, as part of the related permit.
- iv. No parking or storing of vehicles, equipment, or materials is permitted within the minimum protective area, at any time.
- v. No site clearing or grading is permitted within the minimum protective area, other than those changes that are approved by the Natural Resources Coordinator or designee, as part of the related permit.

Definitions Chapter 27-43

Damage or abuse: Any action or inaction, which does not follow accepted arboricultural practices, as established by the International Society of Arborists. Abuse also includes damage inflicted upon roots by machinery, changing the natural grade above the root system or around the trunk, destruction of the natural shape or any action that causes infection, infestation, or decay.

Development: The carrying out of any building activity or the making of any material change to any structure or the natural surface of the land. For the purposes of this chapter, development shall include the following activities or uses:

- (1) A reconstruction or alteration of the size of a structure;
- (2) A change in the intensity of use of land such as an increase in the number of dwelling units in a structure or a material increase in the number of businesses, manufacturing establishments, offices or dwelling units in a structure;
- (3) Commencement of drilling, except to obtain soil samples, mining or excavation on a parcel of land; and
- (4) Activities that change or disturb the natural surface of the land such as clearing, grading, excavating and filling.

Green space: Synonymous with "landscaped area" or "landscape area".

Irreparable or irreversible damage or abuse: "Damage or abuse" inflicted upon a tree's root system, trunk, and/or crown, by any means, to such a degree that the tree condition is rendered "hazardous" or "dangerous" and is incapable of correction, repair, or return to a structurally stable condition.



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Land alteration: Any activity which removes vegetation from or changes the topography of the land by grubbing, tree removal, clearing, grading, filling or excavating, except for activities undertaken to maintain existing grounds.

Landscape: The plant material, native and non-native, which is retained and/or planted in such a way as to conserve, preserve, and/or enhance land uses, natural land features, natural and aesthetic values, wildlife habitat, and/or other environmental factors such as air or water quality.

Landscape and tree planting plan: A plan that meets the requirements set forth in this chapter.

Landscape plant zone: A grouping of plants with similar water, light, and soil needs. Plant groupings based on water use are as follows: natural plants, drought tolerant plants, and oasis plants.

Landscape area: The minimum area on a parcel that is required to be landscaped pursuant to this chapter, as depicted on an approved landscape and tree planting plan. The types of plants and other materials permitted in a landscaped area are outlined in the definition of "landscape" in this section. Landscape area excludes the following: building footprint(s); driveways/accessways; vehicular use areas; hardscapes such as decks, swimming pools, decorative fountains, patios, and/or other impervious surfaces/areas; stormwater management systems/areas (below two (2) feet); wetland conservation areas (wetland setback/buffer area(s) not excluded); and, other water bodies such as lakes, ponds, rivers, and creeks.

Landscaping: The act of installing or removing landscape.

Pervious area: A permeable surface area which allows passage of surface water and air to the root system of a tree. A pervious area shall be free of significant amounts of clay, shell, marl, limestone or other road-base material unless expressly permitted in the context thereof but may be surfaced with turf blocks or similar nontoxic products.

Protective root zone (PRZ): The entire surface and subsurface soil area encompassed by prescribed radius for protected and grand trees, as set forth in the Tree and Landscape Technical Manual.

Removed tree: A protected or grand tree that has been irreparably or irreversibly damaged or destroyed. Such tree is factored as "removed" in the mitigation calculation required in this chapter.

Root Pruning: An arboricultural technique for preserving trees by providing for the sharp severance of tree roots at a prescribed off-set, relating to the size of the tree. Equipment must be approved by the natural resources coordinator, or respective designees, and have the capability of cutting to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) inches below grade in order to protect residual roots within the protected root zone.