

Subject: Tree Maintenance – Post Planting

Approved: Patrick Bohlen

PROCEDURE:

Tree Maintenance – Post Planting

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

LNR personnel who will perform maintenance on recently installed trees throughout campus.

PURPOSE:

To train LNR person on the proper care for trees after their initial installation.

I. Knowledge

- a. Be familiar with tree species. How big will the tree get? How large is the container? Is it ball and burlap, containerized, container grown, or bare root?

II. Safety

- a. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - i. Gloves are (required)
 - ii. Eye protection (required)
 - iii. LNR Safety Shoes (required)
 - iv. It is the employee's responsibility to determine if added Personal Protective Equipment is needed and therefore must consult with their Supervisor prior to starting the task.

III. Strapping, Staking Removal, and Planting Rings

- a. Remove support straps and stakes six (6) months to one (1) year as determined by Urban Forestry Supervisor.
- b. Level the planting ring around the tree so that the root crown is slightly above grade.

Note: The root flare should be 1" above the rim of the planting hole, and the tree should be positioned vertically.

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- c. Once planting rings have been leveled, leave a 24 inch diameter circle around the base of the tree as bare ground.

CAUTION: Do not cover root flares or base of tree with mulch or excess soil. Leave a 24 inch ring around the base of the tree as bare ground.

IV. Weed Control Around Trees

Note: When feasible, weeds growing up to and around tree trunks should be managed with a line trimmer.

- a. Using the line trimmer, remove weeds around tree trunk without damaging the base of the tree or removing any excess bark.
- b. Do not edge or trim around planting circles.

Note: When trees are newly planted, edging around planting circles consistently cuts new feeder roots being produced by the tree, restricting its growth and establishment.

- c. After tree is established, weeds may be managed with Glyphosate herbicides only.

Note: Avoid using pre-emergents or Imazyapyr herbicides within the dripline.

V. Irrigation

- a. Remove, cap and bury irrigation bubbler once the tree is established as determined by the urban forestry supervisor.