

Landscaping Requirements

- 1) Contractor shall furnish and install all plants as shown on the landscape plan, in accordance with the type, sizes, quantities, and specifications listed in the plant schedule.
- 2) Total number of plants shall be drawn on the landscape plan. If the actual total is to differ from the landscape plan, the Contractor is to notify the Owner and/or Owners Representative and approved by County Agent.
- 3) All plants shall be nursery grown and shall be hardy under climate conditions in the locality of the project.
- 4) Plant dimensions shall be in accordance with the most recent edition of the *Standardized Landscape Specifications for the Commonwealth of Virginia*, which references the American Standard for Nursery Stock (ASNS).
- 5) Balled and burlapped plants shall be dug with firm, natural balls of earth and shall be pruned, stored, and dug in accordance with current ASNS standards. No balled and burlapped plants shall be planted if the ball is either cracked or broken during the process of planting.
- 6) All plants shall have a normal habit of growth and shall be sound, healthy, vigorous, well rooted, and free from disease and insect infestation. Any tree with weak, thin trunks not capable of supporting itself when in the open will not be acceptable. The minimum acceptable size of all plants measured before pruning with the branches in normal position shall conform to dimensions as shown on the landscape plan. Larger plants of equal quality may be accepted at no additional cost to the Owner.
- 7) Substitution of plants shall not be permitted unless authorized by the Owner and/or Owner's Representative and approved by County Agent.
- 8) The Contractor shall lay out, with identifiable stakes, the location of all trees, outlines of planting beds, and underground utilities as indicated on the construction plan. In the event that rock, utility lines, or any underground obstructions are encountered during these operations, or in the excavation of any plant pits, alternate locations may be selected by the Owner and/or Owner's Representative and approved by County Agent with no additional cost to the Owner.
- 9) Planting soil shall be _____.
- 10) Mulch shall be applied immediately after planting operations. Mulch shall be _____, free of debris, weeds, spores or other foreign material, well rotted and of such character as to not be easily removed by the elements.

- 11) Prior to installation, the Contractor shall notify the Owner and/or Owners Representative of all soil or drainage conditions that are detrimental to the growth of plants. The Contractor shall state the conditions and submit a proposal, in writing, correcting the conditions, including any change in cost, for review and acceptance by the Owner.
- 12) A container grown plant shall be defined as a plant transplanted into a container and grown in that container sufficiently long for the new fibrous roots to have developed so that the container mass will retain its shape and hold together when removed from the container. All container grown plants shall be sound, healthy, vigorous, well rooted, free from disease and insect infestation, and established in the container in which they are sold. They shall have tops that are of good quality and are in healthy condition. No root bound container grown plants will be permitted. No container grown plant shall be planted if the root mass is broken either before or during the process of planting.
- 13) All plant pits shall be circular in outline. All excavations shall have vertical sides. The depths and widths for excavation of plant pits shall be the depths and widths as specified in the landscape plan. Loosen subgrade 6" below bottom of the pit. Subgrade soils shall be separated from the upper topsoil portions and removed immediately wherever encountered during planting operations. Excess soils shall be removed and legally disposed.
- 14) In general, set plants at same relation to finished grade as the bore to the ground from which they were dug. Prepare planting pits as specified and as shown on the landscape plan, prior to inserting plants. Use topsoil mixture to backfill approximately 2/3 full. Water thoroughly before installing remainder of the soil to the top of the pit. Set trees plumb and brace rigidly in position until the planting soil has been tamped solidly around the ball and the roots.
- 15) Guying and staking shall be required for all trees in accordance with the landscape plan and must be completed within 24 hours after planting.
- 16) Maintenance of new plants shall consist of pruning, watering, cultivating, weeding, mulching, tightening, and resetting plants to proper grades or upright position. Restoration of the planting saucer and furnishing and applying such sprays are necessary to keep the plant free from disease and insect infestation. Maintenance shall be provided until time of provisional acceptance.
- 17) Plantings and planting areas shall be protected at all times against trespassing and damage of any kind for the duration of the maintenance period. If any plants become damaged, they shall be treated or replaced by the Contractor at no additional cost to the Owner. No work shall be done within, adjacent to, or over any plant or planting area without proper safeguards and protection.

- 18) All plants shall be guaranteed by the Contractor for a period of one year from the date of provisional acceptance. The Contractor shall provide, in writing, specific maintenance recommendations to the Owner for all plants to remain in good, healthy, and flourishing condition.
- 19) For plants that have been properly maintained by the Owner during the one-year guarantee period, the Contractor shall replace, without cost to the Owner, all dead or severely damaged plants as determined by a certified agent. The replacement plants shall be sound, healthy, vigorous, well rooted, free from disease and insect infestation, and shall closely match surrounding plants of the same size and species. Requirements shall be subject to all requirements stated in this specification.
- 20) The guarantee of all replacement plants shall extend for an additional period of one year from the date of their acceptance after replacement. In the event that a replacement is not acceptable during or at the end of the said extended guarantee period, the Owner may elect a substitution or a credit for each item.
- 21) No plants shall impede the sight distance for ingress & egress to the site.
- 22) Performance bond may be required by Stafford County [Ord. 28-86(C)(5)].