



City of Rohnert Park

Park and Landscape Design Standards

**PARK AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN STANDARDS
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Volume 1

Design Standards

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PARK AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN STANDARDS

Standards and Specifications for Planting Parkway Trees

GENERAL

The developer shall be required to provide and plant street trees per the following standards and specifications and in accordance with all City tree ordinances.

Approval of tree species is by the Planning Department and must be in conformance with the Street Tree Master Plan approved by the City.

DESIGN CRITERIA

1. Requirements

- A. A minimum 48-hour notification shall be given to the Planning Department prior to installation of parkway trees. Planning Department will verify that the genus, species, material quality, planting location and method of planting trees is consistent with the Street Tree Master Plan, tentative subdivision map, site plan and architectural review approval and any other pertinent project condition.
- B. To avoid conflicts with public utilities, lines of sight and streetscape features, trees shall be located as follows:
 - 1. 30 feet in back from beginning of curb returns at intersections (visual triangle).
 - 2. 10-15 feet from lamp standards, depending on species size.
 - 3. 4 foot minimum from driveways, 6 foot normally.
 - 4. 6 feet from all utilities, sewer, water, cable, gas lines and fire hydrants.
 - 5. Each residential lot shall have at least one (1) tree, corner lots two (2) trees, except where not possible. Normally there will be a tree every 30 feet as feasible. In small lot subdivisions the intent is that reasonable concessions should be made regarding these standards to maximize the number of street trees planted.
 - 6. 20 foot minimum spacing in commercial zones.
 - 7. Where there are power or service lines above planter areas, tree selection must be appropriate for the limited overhead space restrictions. No single leader trees will be accepted except for very high wires (exceeding 30 feet).
- C. Trees shall have a minimum size of 12 feet, including root ball, a good height to trunk caliper ration, with a minimum caliper of 1 inch at 12 inches above the top of the root ball, and a minimum container size of fifteen (15) gallons.
 - 1. Condition of the plants shall be symmetrical with well distributed branches, typical for variety and species, structurally sound, healthy,

vigorous, free from plant disease, insect pests or their eggs, and shall have a healthy, normal root system, with no girdling or circling roots, well filling their containers but not to the point of being root bound. Trees shall not have leaders cut or be topped prior to delivery. Trees must be able to stand upright when nursery stake is removed.

2. Inspection. All plant material shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the City. The City has the right to reject any item offered.
 - a. A forty-eight (48) hour notification shall be given prior to **any** inspection.
 - b. Upon initial notification, the Contractor shall indicate the number and sequences of planting phases necessary to complete the entire project.
 - c. A twenty-four (24) hour notice shall be given the City prior to starting any additional phase. Instructions regarding the proper method of staking and tying shall be given upon initial notification of planting.
 - d. At the time of final inspection, the City may select at random one (1) tree from each planting phase to be removed and inspected for compliance with planting specifications.

2. Parkway Tree Planting Operations

- A. All holes shall be dug with bottoms level, the width equal to 1-1/2 times the diameter of the root ball, but no deeper than height of root ball. The City, upon notification, shall inspect holes prior to planting of trees.
- B. Holes shall be backfilled with 100% approved planting material.
- C. Removal of all nursery training stakes is required at the time of planting. Any tree that cannot stand upright without its nursery stakes will be rejected.
- D. Turf shall be at least 18 inches away from the trunk of trees in all directions.
- E. Set trees in center of hole in vertical position, with the root ball crown at least 1 inch to 1-1/2 inches higher than the final grade. Tamp soil, add fertilizer tablets, add water halfway through the backfill process to eliminate air pockets and insure good soil contact with the root ball.
- F. Construct a 4-foot high earth water basin capable of holding ten (10) gallons of water just outside the root ball. Water sufficient to fill the basin shall be applied immediately after planting.
- G. If houses and/or other buildings are not occupied, trees shall be watered by the developer at least twice a week until such buildings are occupied, except during rainy season.

- H. Root barriers are required in cutouts of 4 feet or smaller; root barrier strips will be used in parkway plantings in new subdivisions.
- I. Each tree must be properly supported by two (2) Lodgepole Pine stakes. Stakes shall be a minimum of 2-inch x 2-inch and not less than 8 feet in length. Stake all trees at time of planting by placing stake in prepared hole just outside the root ball and driving stake a minimum of 12 inches into soil. (See detail for final height of stake and vertical location of tree tie.)
- J. All trees shall be secured to stakes as detailed (or approved equal).
 - 1. Chain lock plastic or rubber ties screwed or nailed into the stakes.

3. Water Conservation Practices

- A. Landscape and planting materials will be designed in accordance with the City's water conservation stages Municipal Code 13.
- B. For commercial developments and residential subdivisions a water conservation plan shall be submitted to the Planning Director and City Engineer for review and approval. Said plan shall identify areas to be landscaped, use of drought-tolerant plants, native grasses and other low water use landscaping. The use of turf shall be discouraged and will only be allowed as approved by the Planning Director.

4. Guarantees

- A. A fifteen (15) gallon tree shall be guaranteed as to growth and health for a period of one year after final acceptance by the City.
- B. Trees that fail to grow or are injured or damaged during planting operations shall be replaced within fifteen (15) days after notification. Replacement material shall be guaranteed as specified as original material.

**TREES NOT INSTALLED ACCORDING TO CITY REQUIREMENTS
WILL BE REJECTED BY THE CITY.**