

DIVISION 14. LANDSCAPING AND WOODLAND PRESERVATION

Sec. 40 – 550. Landscaping On A Lot.

Landscaping on a lot shall consist of a finish grade and a soil retention cover such as sod, seed and mulch, plantings, or as may be required by the Zoning Administrator to protect the soil and aesthetic values on the lot and adjacent property, and to protect public drainage systems and the City's natural resources. Such landscaping shall be completed within one growing season of the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

Sec. 40 – 551. Landscaping in all Districts.

In all districts, all developed uses shall be sodded, seeded, or planted with native materials from the urban curb and gutter or edge of road surface to the road right-of-way lines and shall be completed within one growing season. This landscaped yard shall be kept clear of all structures, exterior storage, trees, brush, and off-street parking.

Sec. 40 – 552. Landscaping Maintenance.

Landscaping shall be provided and maintained on all required front and side yards in all developed districts except where pavement or crushed stone is used for walkways or driveways.

Sec. 40 – 553. Double Fronted Lots.

Double fronted lots must be landscaped on both fronts and not utilized for exterior storage

Sec. 40 – 554. Vegetated Buffers.

- (1) Vegetated buffers used in all new residential, commercial and industrial developments shall consist predominantly of hardy indigenous or native plant material, to reflect the historical landscape and provide natural resource habitat for wildlife and birds.
 - (a) Hardy indigenous or native plant material is defined as:
 1. Hardy: plant species rated for use in USDA Hardiness Zone 4a or colder (-30 to -25 F), are suited to the soil types and exposure as found on a given site, and are not presently under disease epidemic. Species hardy to Zone 4b and varieties of species documented as showing resistance to epidemic disease may be used in small quantities on a trial basis. (See also Sec. 40 – 640.)
 2. Indigenous: plant species that occurred in Minnesota at the time of the Public Land Survey (1847-1907) which was conducted prior to significant European settlement.
 3. Native: plant species indigenous to North America that meet the required degree of hardiness (see a. above).
- (2) Planting patterns shall be selected from the following:
 - (a) Forest Cover – providing, over time, a very high level of tree cover in substantial blocks:
 - (b) Hedgerows – established as linkages between forest blocks:
 - (c) Access roads – incorporating placement of edge trees in linear patterns:
 - (d) Wetlands – can be created as new facilities or restored as part of a program of ecological restoration:
 - (e) Watercourses and Storm Water Management – should be integrated into the natural environment. Developed sites should be appropriately set back from these features:
 - (f) Rural Pattern – the spaces between buildings and the placement of buildings and landscape planting should contribute to an overall sense of place that is recognized as a rural pattern:
- (3) Recommended plant lists, based on general plant community types, are included in Appendix C of the 2004 Wyoming Township Comprehensive Plan.

Sec. 40 – 555. Landscaping Regulations.

The purpose of this Section is to establish a standard that helps to implement and regulate open space within the City of Wyoming by establishing a protection of privacy and buffers between different land uses; increasing and maintaining property values; creating an urban forest, thereby controlling the urban heat island effect; preventing or reducing soil erosion, sedimentation, and storm water runoff; improving air quality and reducing noise pollutions; and enhancing energy conservation through natural insulation and shading.

- (1) Landscape Plan.
 - (a) General Submission Requirements. A Landscape Plan required hereunder shall be submitted within:
 1. All commercial uses, industrial uses, subdivisions, Planned Unit Developments, and non-residential uses in residential zoning districts; and
 2. Any Preliminary Subdivision Plan as required within the Subdivision Ordinance; and

- (f) No more than fifty percent (50%) of the required number of trees shall be composed of one (1) species.
- (g) Due to various ecological and maintenance related concerns, no more than twenty percent (20%) of the required number of trees shall be composed of the following:
1. Any species of the genus Fraxinus (Ash),
 2. Douglas Fir,
 3. Austrian Pine,
 4. Colorado Blue Spruce,
 5. Red & Pin Oak,
- (h) Due to various ecological and maintenance related concerns, no required tree shall be any of the following:
1. Any species of the genus Ulmus (Elm), not compliant with i, 8) below,
 2. European (Common) Buckthorn,
 3. Glossy (Alder) Buckthorn,
 4. Russian Olive,
 5. Black Locust,
 6. Box-elder,
 7. Amur (Ginella) Maple,
 8. Norway Maple,
 9. Japanese Barberry,
 10. Scotch (Scots) Pine,
 11. Additional trees may be restricted from specific locations due to ecological and maintenance related issues. It is the responsibility of the landowner and/or Applicant to confirm with the City whether or not a specific tree species is appropriate.
- (i) The following species of trees are desirable:
1. Big-toothed Aspen, Quaking Aspen (Poplar, Popple),
 2. Basswood,
 3. Bicolor Oak (Swamp White Oak),
 4. Birch, Paper,
Birch, River,
Birch, Yellow,
 5. Black Cherry,
 6. Bur Oak,
 7. Catalpa,
 8. Any species of the genus Ulmus (Elm) bred to be resistant to Dutch Elm Disease,
 9. Hackberry,
 10. Hickory,
 11. Ironwood,
 12. Maple, Black (Hard Maple),
Maple, Freeman,
Maple, Red,
Maple, Silver,
Maple, Sugar,
 13. Northern White Cedar
 14. Serviceberry / Amelanchier / Juneberry,
 15. Tamarack,
 16. Walnut,
 17. White Oak,
 18. White Pine,
 19. White Spruce,

- (d) Construction Zone: Any area in which movement of earth, alteration in topography, soil compaction, disruption of vegetation, change in soil chemistry, or other change in the natural character of the land occurs as a result of the site preparation, grading, building construction, or any other construction activity.
 - (e) Critical Root Zone (CRZ): An imaginary circle surrounding the tree trunk radius distance of one (1) foot per one (1) inch of tree diameter, (i.e. a twenty (20) inch diameter tree has a CRZ with a radius of twenty (20) feet).
 - (f) Drip Line: The farthest distance away from the trunk that rain or dew will directly fall to the ground from the leaves or branches of the tree.
 - (g) Hardwood Deciduous Tree: Includes, but not limited to, ironwood, oak, maple (hard), walnut, hickory, birch, black cherry, hackberry, and basswood.
 - (h) Significant Woodland: A grouping or cluster of coniferous and/or deciduous trees with contiguous crown cover, occupying 15,000 or more square feet of property, and is comprised of deciduous trees of six (6) caliper inches or more, and coniferous trees over twelve (12) feet in height.
 - (i) Significant Tree: A healthy tree measuring a minimum of six (6) caliper inches for all hardwood deciduous trees, a minimum of twenty (20) caliper inches for all softwood deciduous trees, or a minimum of twelve (12) feet in height for all coniferous trees.
 - (j) Softwood Deciduous Trees: Includes, but not limited to, catalpa, poplars/aspens, willow, silver maple, and elm.
 - (k) Tree, Overstory: A self-supporting woody plant having one well defined stem or trunk and normally attaining a mature height and spread of at least 30 feet, and having a trunk that may, at maturity, be kept clear of leaves and branches at least 8 feet above grade.
 - (l) Tree, Understory: A self-supporting woody plant having at least one well-defined stem or trunk and normally attaining a mature height and spread of less than 30 feet, with branching less than 8 feet above grade.
- (2) Woodland Preservation Plan.
- (a) General Submission Requirements. A Woodland Preservation Plan required hereunder shall be submitted within:
 1. Any Preliminary Subdivision Plan as required within the Subdivision Ordinance;
 2. Any Landscape Plan as required by Sec. 40 – 555 of this Division unless otherwise waived by the City; and
 3. Any project for which a City Grading Permit is required by Article VI, Division 16, Shoreland Zoning District, and
 4. When significant trees and/or woodlands exist on the site.
 - (b) Residential Lot Requirements. Applicants of Residential Building Permits are required to prepare an individual lot Woodland Preservation Plan when significant trees and/or woodlands exist on site.
 - (c) Plan Requirements.
 1. All Woodland Preservation Plans, with the exception of Residential lots, shall be certified by a forester, landscape architect, or other qualified professional retained by the Applicant.
 2. All Applicants shall submit a Woodland Preservation Plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The Woodland Preservation Plan shall include the following information:
 - i The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of Applicants, property owners, developers, and/or builders;
 - ii Delineation of the buildings, structures, or impervious surfaces situated thereon or contemplated to be built thereon;
 - iii Delineation of all areas to be graded and limits of the construction zone;
 - iv Size, species, and location of all existing significant trees and woodlands located within the area to be platted or within the parcel of record. These significant trees and woodlands shall be identified in both graphic and tabular form;
 - v Identification of all significant trees and woodlands proposed to be removed within the construction zone. These significant trees and woodlands shall be identified in both graphic and tabular form;
 - vi Measures to protect significant trees and woodlands;
 - vii Size, species, and location of all replacement trees proposed to be planted on the property in accordance with the tree replacement schedule; and
 - viii Signature of the person preparing the plan.
 - (d) Review process. The Woodland Preservation Plan shall be reviewed by the City Staff to assess the best possible layout to preserve significant trees and woodlands, and to enhance the efforts to minimize damage to significant trees and woodlands. The Applicant shall meet with the City Staff prior to submission of the

Size of Tree Damaged or Destroyed	Number of Replacement Trees		
	Category A	Category B	Category C
Coniferous, 12 to 24 feet high	1	2	4
Coniferous, 24 feet or higher	2	4	8
Hardwood Deciduous, 6 to 20 inches diameter	1	2	4
Hardwood Deciduous, 21 to 30 inches diameter	2	4	8
Softwood Deciduous, 20 to 30 inches diameter	1	2	4
Softwood Deciduous, greater than 30 inches diameter	2	4	8

- (b) Significant Woodland Replacement. Where replacement of significant woodland is required, the Applicant shall be responsible for furnishing and installing one (1) Category A replacement tree or two (2) Category B replacement trees or four (4) Category C replacement trees for every 125 square feet of significant woodland damaged or destroyed, or any increment thereof.
- (c) Size of Replacement Trees.
1. Category A trees shall be no less than the following sizes:
 - i Deciduous trees, not less than four (4) caliper inches.
 - ii Coniferous trees, not less than twelve (12) feet in height.
 2. Category B trees shall be no less than the following sizes:
 - i Deciduous trees, not less than two and one-half (2½) caliper inches.
 - ii Coniferous trees, not less than six (6) feet in height.
 3. Category C trees shall be no less than the following sizes:
 - i Deciduous trees, not less than one and one-half (1½) caliper inches.
 - ii Coniferous trees, not less than four (4) feet in height.
- (d) Species Requirement. Where ten (10) or more replacement trees are required, not more than fifty percent (50%) of the replacement trees shall be of the same species of tree without the approval of the City.
- (e) Warranty Requirement. Any replacement tree which is not alive or healthy, as determined by the City, or which subsequently dies due to construction activity within one (1) year after the date of project closure, shall be removed by the Applicant and replaced with a new healthy tree meeting the same minimum size requirements within eight (8) months of removal.
- (f) The replanting of trees for mitigation shall be in addition to any other landscape requirements of the City.
- (6) Required Protective Measures
- (a) The following measures shall be utilized to protect significant trees and woodlands during any type of grading or construction:
1. Installation of snow fencing or polyethylene laminate safety netting placed at the drip line or at the perimeter of the critical root zone (CRZ), whichever is greater, of significant trees and woodlands to be preserved. No grade change, construction activity, or storage of materials shall occur within this fenced area.
 2. Identification of any oak trees requiring pruning between April 15 and July 1. Any oak trees so pruned shall be required to have any cut areas sealed with an appropriate non-toxic tree wound sealant at the time of cutting.
 3. Prevention of change in soil chemistry due to concrete washout and leakage or spillage of toxic materials, such as fuels or paints.
- (7) Additional Protective Measures
- (a) The following tree protection measures are suggested to protect significant trees and woodlands that are intended to be preserved:
1. Installation of retaining walls or tree wells to preserve trees.
 2. Placement of utilities in common trenches outside of the drip line of significant trees, or use of tunneled installation.