

Chapter 13.28

PUBLIC WORKS STANDARDS

Sections:

- 13.28.010 Public works design standards.
- 13.28.020 Public tree standards.

13.28.010 Public Works Design Standards. A. The city adopts the "City of Scappoose Public Works Design Standards" and "Standard Detail Drawings", a copy of which is on file with the city recorder-treasurer, for public works infrastructure projects, both public and privately financed, within the jurisdiction of the city.

B. These standards will need to be changed in time to reflect new technology, methods, and materials as they are developed for use in public works construction. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 721 §1, 2002; Ord. 724 §1, 2002)

13.28.020 Public Tree Standards. A. Purpose. It is the purpose of this subsection to promote and protect the public health, safety, and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting and maintenance of public trees in the city and to ensure quality planting materials are established in their new environment in a manner that minimizes the potential for future maintenance problems.

B. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

"Public trees" are defined as trees located on property designated as public land in the Scappoose comprehensive plan.

"Street trees" are defined as trees lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues, or public rights-of-way within the city or within easements defined on a recorded plat as street tree easements.

C. Planting of Public Trees and Street Trees.

1. Plant materials shall conform to the latest version of the American Standard for Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1). Plant materials shall be of standard quality or better, true to name and type of their species or cultivar.

2. Plants shall have normal, well-developed branches and root systems. They shall be healthy, vigorous plants free from decay, defects, sunscald injuries, abrasions of the bark, insect pests and all forms of infestations or objectionable disfigurements.

3. Balled and burlapped plants shall have solid balls of size at least meeting the American standard, the balls securely wrapped with burlap or canvas, tightly bound with rope or twine. Plastic twine or wrapping material is not permitted.

4. A minimum of two inches caliper measured six inches above ground (root ball) is required of all stock planted.

5. The city manager shall be notified and have the right to inspect any trees or shrubs before they are planted on public property. The city reserves the right to reject any materials at any time.

6. The Planning Department, with advice from the Parks and Recreation Committee, shall maintain a list of approved varieties of trees that may be planted on any street within the City. In preparing the list, mature height and spread, susceptibility to disease or pests, drought resistance, reasonable expected freedom from nuisance characteristics and general suitability for particular locations shall be considered. All street trees shall be of an approved species and variety identified in the approved street tree list. Street tree spacing must conform to the minimum street tree planting distances based on mature heights indicated in Scappoose Municipal Code Section 17.104.040(C) except in special plantings designed or approved by a landscape architect or urban forester and approved by the Scappoose planning commission, or when retention of significant trees has been approved to satisfy the requirement for street trees.

7. Plant materials pruned at, or directly before, the time of planting shall be rejected.

8. All planting work shall be performed using sound horticultural practices approved by the National Arborist Association and/or the International Society of Arboriculture.

9. Plants shall be set plumb. All plants shall be set so that, after settlement, they are at the same level as when growing in the nursery. Plants shall be watered at the time of planting to eliminate air pockets. Excess soil shall be removed.

10. Balled and burlapped plants may be placed with the wrapping in place if all materials are untreated and biodegradable. When burlap is left around plants, any string shall be removed and the burlap folded down from the top half of the root ball.

11. No plant pit shall be dug or approved until all underground utilities have been marked.

12. Every planting pit shall be at least fifty percent wider and at least the depth of the soil ball or the full extent of the root system of bare-rooted trees. In the process of digging the hole, "glazing" of the sides of the hole will not be acceptable.

13. Excavated plant pits that will be left open when work is not in progress (nights, holidays and weekends) or which pose hazards at any time to pedestrians or vehicles shall be adequately marked with qualified warning devices in accordance with Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon OSHA standards.

14. A watering berm shall be constructed around every tree.

15. Root barriers approved by the city manager or designee are required for all street trees.

13.28.020

16. Planting sites will be mulched with neither more nor less than four inches of wood chips, fibrous bark or composted wood debris after planting is completed. The mulch will be extended beyond the drip zone of the tree and cover an area no less than the width of the planting hole.

17. No public tree or street tree shall be planted within twenty feet of any street corner, measured from the point of curvature (PC) or point of tangency (PT) of the curb return. No public tree or street tree shall be planted within ten feet of any fireplug.

D. Public Tree Maintenance and Care. 1. The city shall have the right to plant, prune, and otherwise maintain trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to ensure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds. All public trees must be pruned to National Arborist Association Pruning Standards for Shade Trees included as Appendix B of the Scappoose Comprehensive Urban Forestry Plan.

2. Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right of-way within the city shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not severely obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection, and so that there shall be a clear space of thirteen feet above street surface or eight feet above the sidewalk surface. Such owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The city shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light, or interferes with visibility of any traffic-control device or sign or sight triangle at intersections as defined in Scappoose Municipal Code Chapter 17.102, Visual Clearance Areas. Tree limbs that grow near high voltage electrical conductors shall be maintained clear of such conductors by the electric utility company in compliance with any applicable franchise agreements.

3. It is unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm or city department to top any public tree or street tree. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this provision at the determination of the city manager after consultation with a registered arborist or certified forester. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 875, 2018; Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 659 §4, 1997; Ord. 658 §3(part), 1997; Ord. 615 §§1, 2, 1994)