

19.08 Tree Protection During Construction.

(1) Definitions.

- (a)** For the purposes of this section, “**public tree**” as defined in section 19.02 of this ordinance shall be extended to include any tree located on private property adjacent to a public area, with any part of the critical root area of such tree extending into the public area.
- (b)** “**Construction**” shall mean building, remodeling, land clearing, installation, alteration, repair, replacement or relocation of any of the following:
 - 1. Any house, garage, driveway, or other surface structure.
 - 2. Any street, curb, sidewalk, pavement, street light, traffic signal or other surface structure.
 - 3. Any underground utility distribution and service facility including water pipe, sanitary and storm sewer, gas pipeline, electric power and communication wire, cable, conduit, duct and associated vaults, manholes, pull boxes; and irrigation facilities.
 - 4. Any overhead wire, cable and associated support structure.

(2) Construction Requirements Concerning Public Trees.

- (a)** No individual person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or government entity shall do or cause to be done, any construction as herein defined, where public trees and shrubs are present without first consulting with the Village Forester.
- (b)** Temporary fences shall be erected around the critical root area of public trees before construction begins and kept intact until final inspection of project.
- (c)** Equipment, vehicles, fill or debris of any kind shall not be stored, parked or driven within the critical root area of a public tree to prevent soil compaction.
- (d)** If equipment or vehicles must be stored or driven across the critical root area then a root buffer shall be installed prior to the work. The root buffer shall be constructed by covering the critical root area with wood chips to a minimum 6-inch depth and overlaid with quarry gravel and ¾ inch plywood working surface or mat. The root buffer shall be maintained throughout the construction process.
- (e)** Trenching or excavating within the critical root area of public trees is prohibited.
- (f)** Careful hand digging or the use of a pneumatic air excavator shall be used when excavation within a public tree’s critical root area is required.

- (g) Exposed roots shall be kept moist with wet burlap or wet wood chips and the exposed roots shall not remain exposed for a period of time exceeding 8 hours.
- (h) Boring or tunneling at a minimum depth of 2 feet shall be used when installing underground utilities.
- (i) Grade changes within the critical root area are prohibited.
- (j) If roots of a public tree are damaged or injured in any way, the person or contractor responsible for that damage shall make a clean cut of that damaged root within one hour of the injury with a reciprocating saw or small hand saw.
- (k) If branches or trunks are damaged or injured in any way the person or contractor responsible for that damage shall immediately contact the Village Forester to determine what corrective measures shall be taken.
- (l) All the tree protection requirements listed in this section and the costs associated with these requirements are the responsibility of the person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or government entity that is conducting the construction.

Questions should be directed to the Village Forester, Corey George

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