



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.**

701 Laurel Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
650.330.6704  
2/28/2011

**TREE PROTECTION SPECIFICATIONS**

1. A 6” layer of coarse mulch or woodchips is to be placed beneath the dripline of the protected trees. Mulch is to be kept 12” from the trunk.
2. A protective barrier of 6’ chain link fencing shall be installed around the dripline of protected tree(s). The fencing can be moved within the dripline if authorized by the Project Arborist or City Arborist but not closer than 2’ from the trunk of any tree. Fence posts shall be 1.5” in diameter and are to be driven 2’ into the ground. The distance between posts shall not be more than 10’. This enclosed area is the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ).
3. Movable barriers of chain link fencing secured to cement blocks can be substituted for “fixed” fencing if the Project Arborist and City Arborist agree that the fencing will have to be moved to accommodate certain phases of construction. The builder may not move the fence without authorization from the Project Arborist or City Arborist.
4. Where the City Arborist or Project Arborist has determined that tree protection fencing will interfere with the safety of work crews, Tree Wrap may be used as an alternative form of tree protection. Wooden slats at least one inch thick are to be bound securely, edge to edge, around the trunk. A single layer or more of orange plastic construction fencing is to be wrapped and secured around the outside of the wooden slats. Major scaffold limbs may require protection as determined by the City Arborist or Project Arborist. Straw waddle may also be used as a trunk wrap by coiling the waddle around the trunk up to a minimum height of six feet from grade. A single layer or more of orange plastic construction fencing is to be wrapped and secured around the straw waddle.
5. **Avoid the following conditions.**  
**DO NOT:**
  - a. Allow run off of spillage of damaging materials into the area below any tree canopy.
  - b. Store materials, stockpile soil, or park or drive vehicles within the TPZ.
  - c. Cut, break, skin, or bruise roots, branches, or trunks without first obtaining authorization from the City Arborist.
  - d. Allow fires under and adjacent to trees.
  - e. Discharge exhaust into foliage.
  - f. Secure cable, chain, or rope to trees or shrubs.
  - g. Trench, dig, or otherwise excavate within the dripline or TPZ of the tree(s) without first obtaining authorization from the City Arborist.
  - h. Apply soil sterilants under pavement near existing trees.
6. Only excavation by hand or compressed air shall be allowed within the dripline of trees. Machine trenching shall not be allowed.

7. Avoid injury to tree roots. When a ditching machine, which is being used outside of the dripline of trees, encounters roots smaller than 2", the wall of the trench adjacent to the trees shall be hand trimmed, making clear, clean cuts through the roots. All damaged, torn and cut roots shall be given a clean cut to remove ragged edges, which promote decay. Trenches shall be filled within 24 hours, but where this is not possible, the side of the trench adjacent to the trees shall be kept shaded with four layers of dampened, untreated burlap, wetted as frequently as necessary to keep the burlap wet. Roots 2" or larger, when encountered, shall be reported immediately to the Project Arborist, who will decide whether the Contractor may cut the root as mentioned above or shall excavate by hand or with compressed air under the root. Root is to be protected with dampened burlap.
8. Route pipes outside of the area that is 10 times the diameter of a protected tree to avoid conflict with roots.
9. Where it is not possible to reroute pipes or trenches, the contractor shall bore beneath the dripline of the tree. The boring shall take place not less than 3' below the surface of the soil in order to avoid encountering "feeder" roots.
10. Trees that have been identified in the arborist's report as being in poor health and/or posing a health or safety risk, may be removed or pruned by more than one-third, subject to approval of the required permit by the Planning Division. Pruning of existing limbs and roots shall only occur under the direction of a Certified Arborist.
11. Any damage due to construction activities shall be reported to the Project Arborist or City Arborist within six hours so that remedial action can be taken.
12. An ISA Certified Arborist or ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist shall be retained as the Project Arborist to monitor the tree protection specifications. The Project Arborist shall be responsible for the preservation of the designated trees. Should the builder fail to follow the tree protection specifications, it shall be the responsibility of the Project Arborist to report the matter to the City Arborist as an issue of non-compliance.
13. Violation of any of the above provisions may result in sanctions or other disciplinary action.

### **MONTHLY INSPECTIONS**

It is required that the site arborist provide periodic inspections during construction. Four-week intervals would be sufficient to access and monitor the effectiveness of the Tree Protection Plan and to provide recommendations for any additional care or treatment.