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TREE GRADING CUE CARD
(PROVIDED BY ROOTS PLUS FIELD GROWERS ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA)

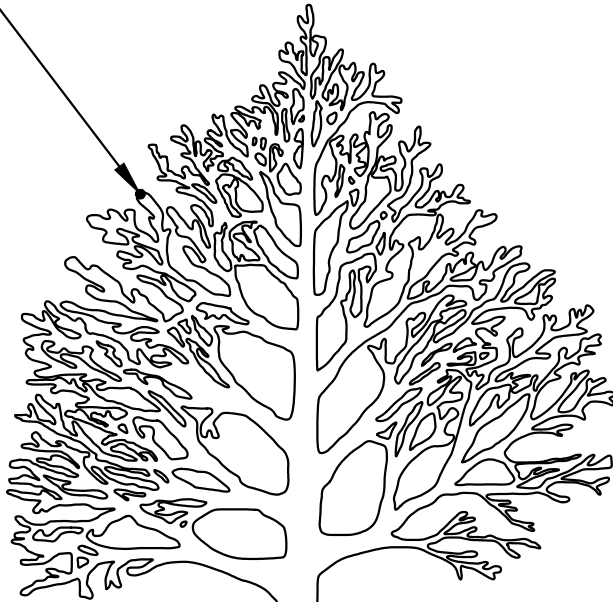
		
GS	ADDED L-10	02-19-2016
GS	ADDED L-11	06-07-2024
BY	REVISION	DATE

COVER SHEET

08/01/2015

INDEX

CROWN
 SET AND MAINTAIN IN A PLUMB VERTICAL POSITION. PRUNE ALL DEAD, DAMAGED OR CROSSING BRANCHES AND ALL WATERSPOUTS AND SUCKERS. DO NOT CUT CENTRAL LEADER OR OTHER BRANCH TIPS.

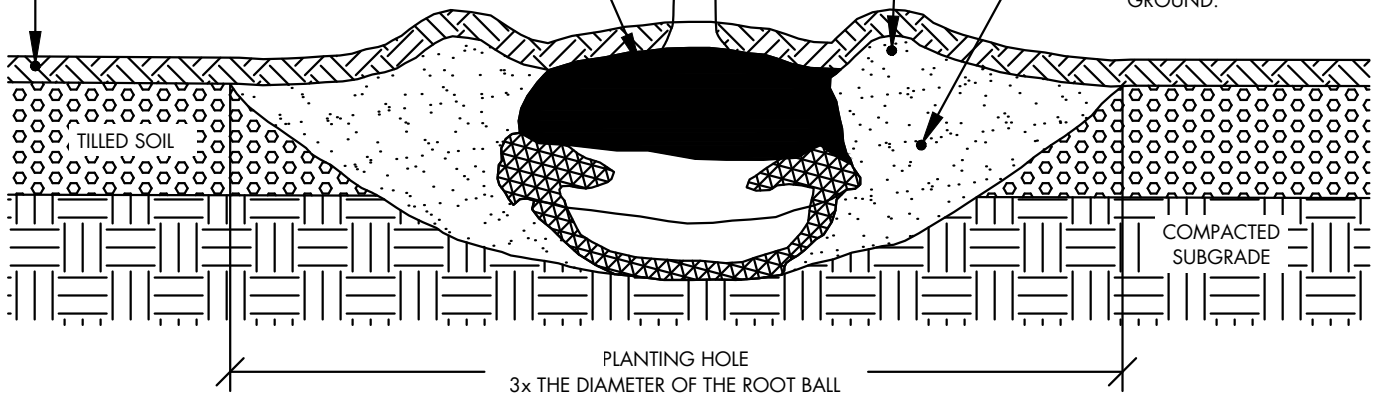



ORGANIC MULCH
 2" TO 4" DEEP TO LIMITS OF CULTIVATED AREA. KEEP 2" AWAY FROM TRUNK.

ROOT BALL
 REMOVE ALL STRAPPING. CUT AND REMOVE AT LEAST TOP 2 RINGS OF WIRE BASKET. CUT AND REMOVE AT LEAST TOP 12" OF BURLAP. CUT ENCIRCLING ROOTS (CONTAINER-GROWN TREES).

WATER RING
 USE ONLY IF TREES ARE TO BE HAND WATERED WITH A HOSE. BUILD NO HIGHER THAN 3" AND PLACE JUST BEYOND ROOT BALL. DESTROY AFTER ONE GROWING SEASON.

PLANTING HOLE
 DIG ONLY DEEP ENOUGH TO HAVE TOP OF ROOT BALL AT GRADE OR 2" HIGHER IN HEAVY OR POORLY DRAINED SOILS. SLOPE SIDES 45° AND SCARIFY IF NECESSARY. SET ROOT BALL ON SOLID GROUND.



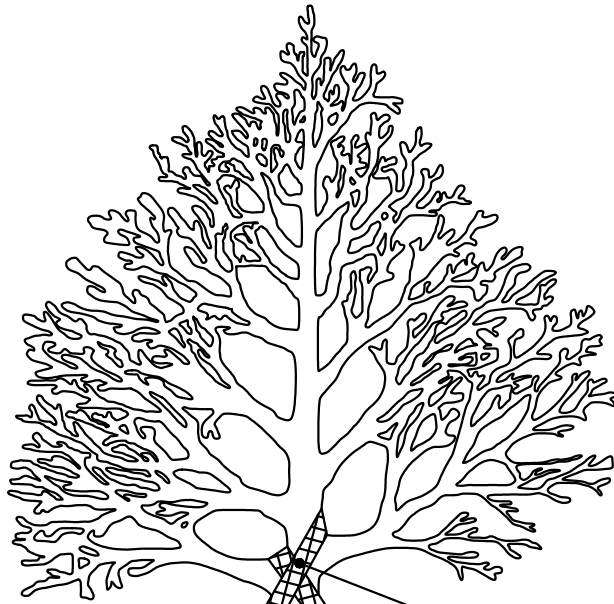
THE CITY OF

ALPHARETTA
 GEORGIA

BY	REVISION	DATE

**TREE PLANTING
 (TYPICAL SECTION)**

08/01/2015

STD. L-1



STAKES

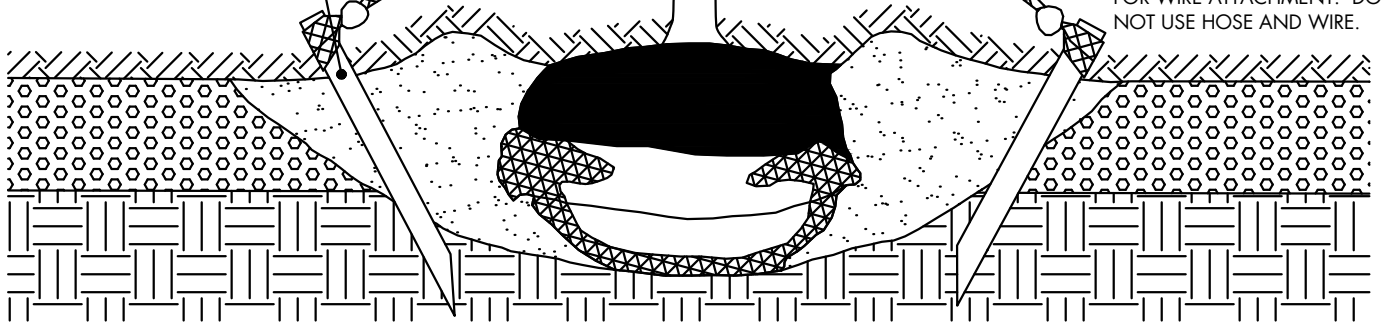
2"x2" WOODEN STAKES OR METAL ANCHORS. CUT STAKES LONG ENOUGH FOR SECURE GRIP IN SUBGRADE. ANGLE STAKES 20-30° OFF VERTICAL. USE 3 STAKES PLACED EQUAL DISTANCE APART (120°). 4 STAKES MAY BE NECESSARY FOR TREES GREATER THAN 4" CALIPER.

ATTACHMENT HEIGHT


ATTACH IN A BRANCH CROTCH APPROXIMATELY 1/3 THE HEIGHT OF THE MAIN STEM, OR AT FIRST AVAILABLE BRANCH CROTCH ABOVE THAT POINT.

STRAPS

WIDE, SOFT, FLEXIBLE MATERIAL MANUFACTURED FOR THE PURPOSE OF TREE ANCHORING SUCH AS WOVEN POLYPROPYLENE WEBBING OR RUBBER STRIPS WITH GROMMETS FOR WIRE ATTACHMENT. DO NOT USE HOSE AND WIRE.



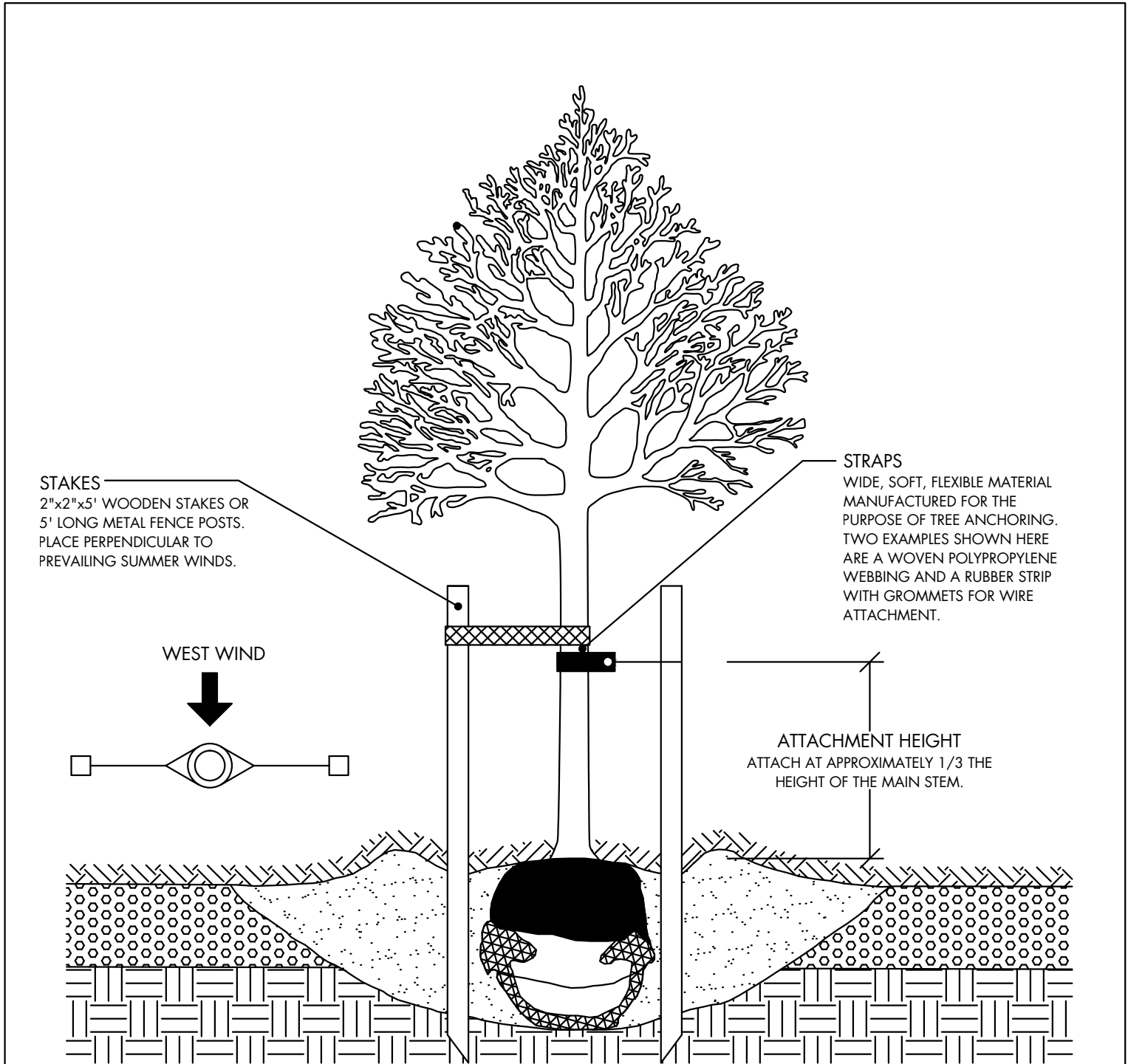
USE ANCHORING SYSTEMS ONLY WHERE WIND OR SOIL CONDITIONS MAKE IT NECESSARY OR AS REQUIRED BY CITY ARBORIST. REMOVE AFTER ONE YEAR.

<p>THE CITY OF</p>  <p>ALPHARETTA</p> <p>GEORGIA</p>		
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TREE ANCHORING - TYPE A
(FOR TREES LARGER THAN 2 INCHES CALIPER)

08/01/2015

STD. L-2



USE ANCHORING SYSTEMS ONLY WHERE WIND OR SOIL
CONDITIONS MAKE IT NECESSARY. REMOVE AFTER ONE YEAR.



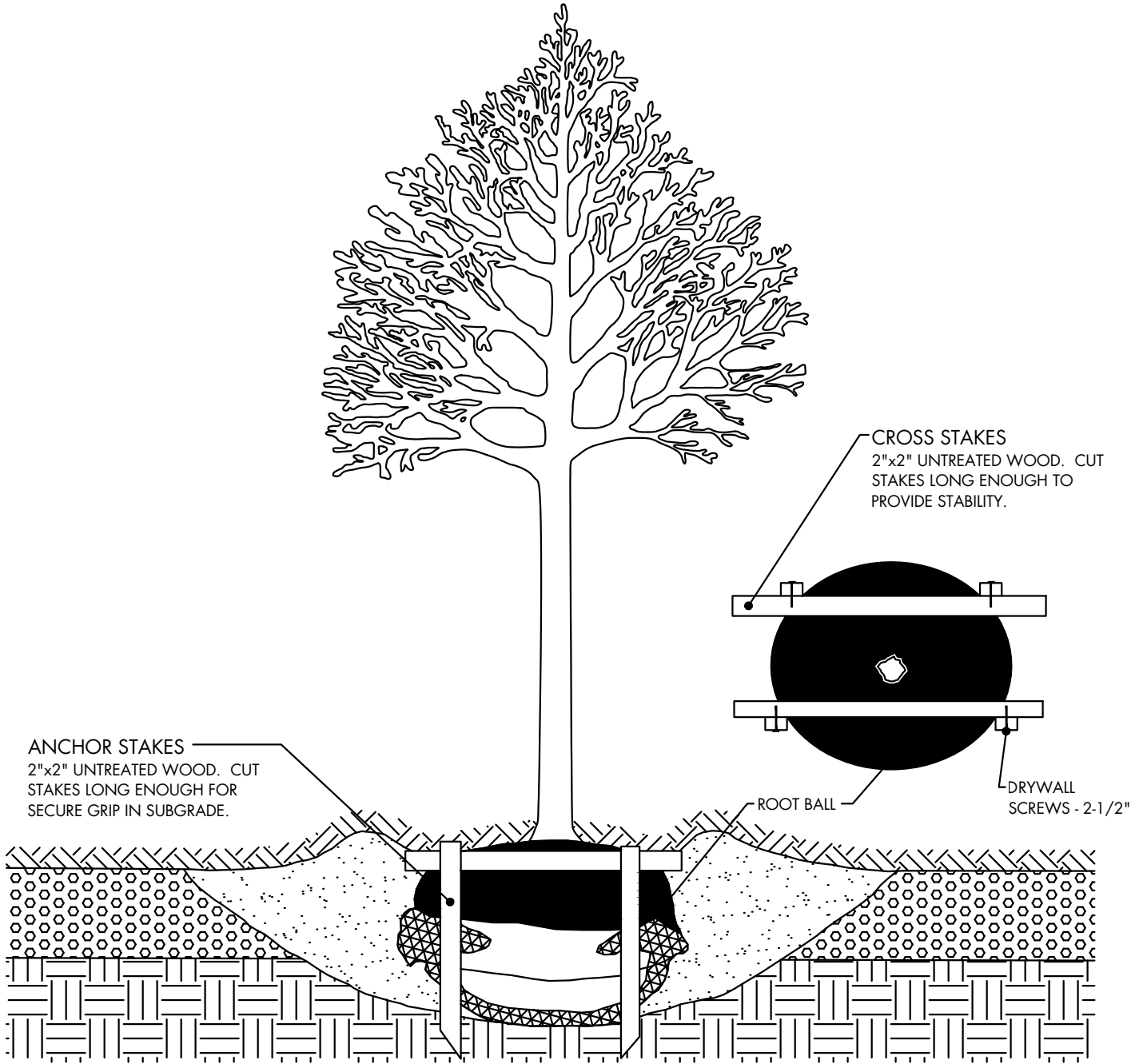
TREE ANCHORING - TYPE B
(FOR TREES UP TO 2 INCHES CALIPER OR FOR
TREES IN BEAUTY STRIPS, SIDEWALK CUTOUTS,
PLANTING PITS, ETC.)

08/01/2015

STD. L-3

NOTE: THIS DETAIL MAY BE UTILIZED FOR TREES
GREATER THAN 2 INCHES CALIPER WHICH ARE TO BE
PLANTED IN BEAUTY STRIPS, SIDEWALK CUTOUTS,
PLANTING PITS, AND SIMILAR LOCATIONS WHERE
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR STRAPPING AS PER STD. L-2.

BY	REVISION	DATE



USE ANCHORING SYSTEMS ONLY WHERE WIND OR SOIL CONDITIONS MAKE IT NECESSARY. REMOVE AFTER ONE YEAR.



TREE ANCHORING - TYPE C
(FOR CONTAINER GROWN TREES OR B&B TREES UP TO 2 INCHES CALIPER)

08/01/2015

STD. L-4

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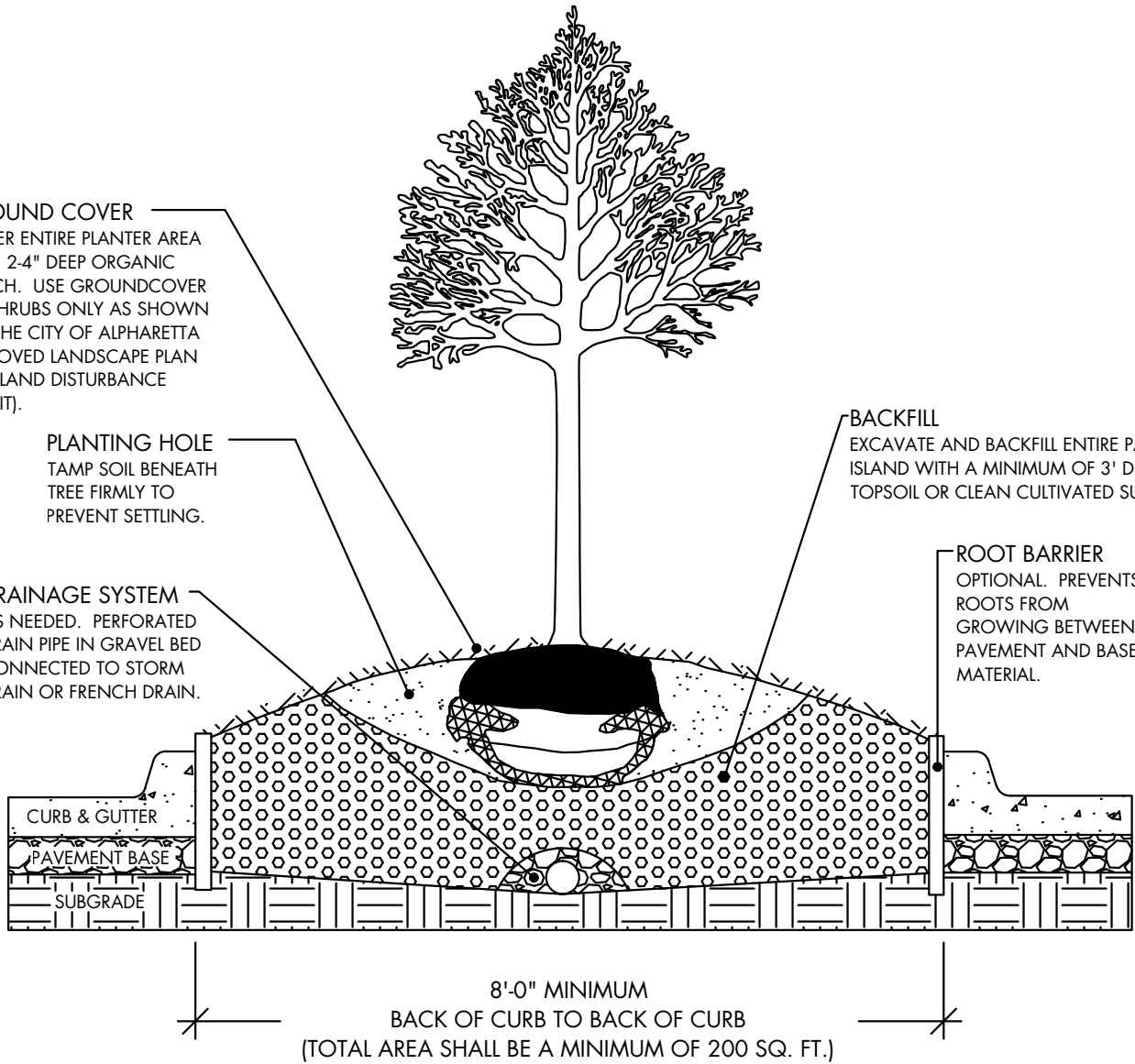
GROUND COVER
COVER ENTIRE PLANTER AREA WITH 2-4" DEEP ORGANIC MULCH. USE GROUND COVER OR SHRUBS ONLY AS SHOWN ON THE CITY OF ALPHARETTA APPROVED LANDSCAPE PLAN (FOR LAND DISTURBANCE PERMIT).


PLANTING HOLE
TAMP SOIL BENEATH TREE FIRMLY TO PREVENT SETTLING.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM
AS NEEDED. PERFORATED DRAIN PIPE IN GRAVEL BED CONNECTED TO STORM DRAIN OR FRENCH DRAIN.

BACKFILL
EXCAVATE AND BACKFILL ENTIRE PARKING LOT ISLAND WITH A MINIMUM OF 3' DEEP FRIABLE TOPSOIL OR CLEAN CULTIVATED SUBSOIL.

ROOT BARRIER
OPTIONAL. PREVENTS ROOTS FROM GROWING BETWEEN PAVEMENT AND BASE MATERIAL.



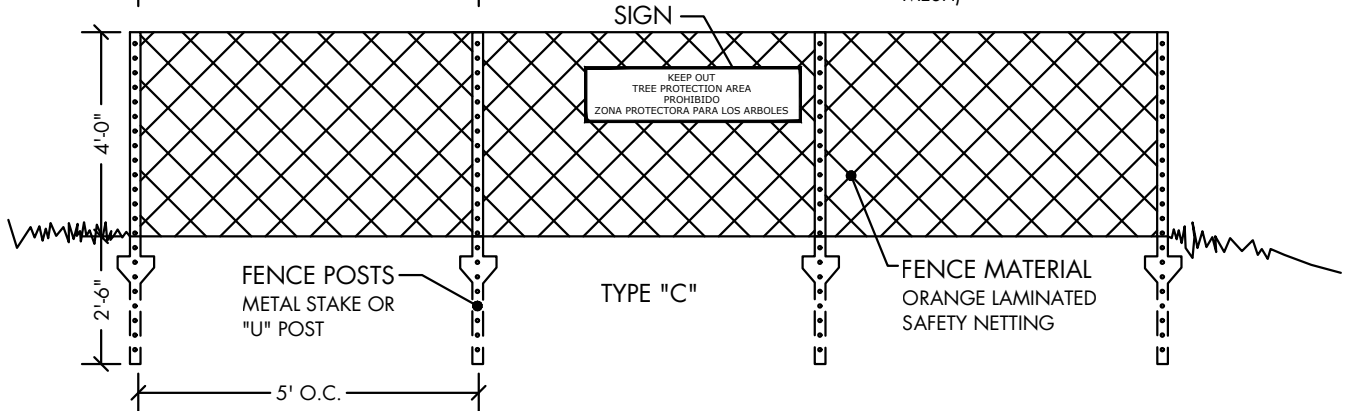
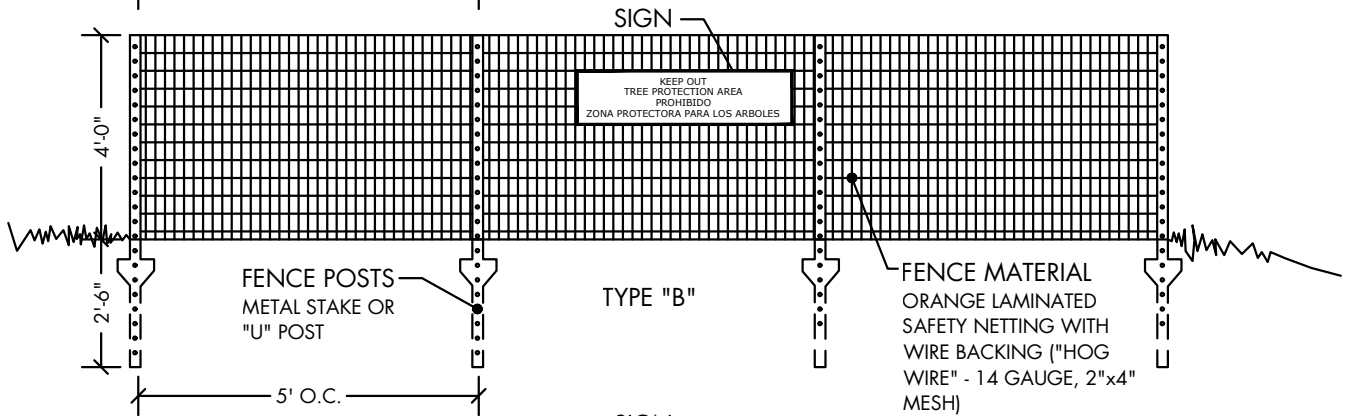
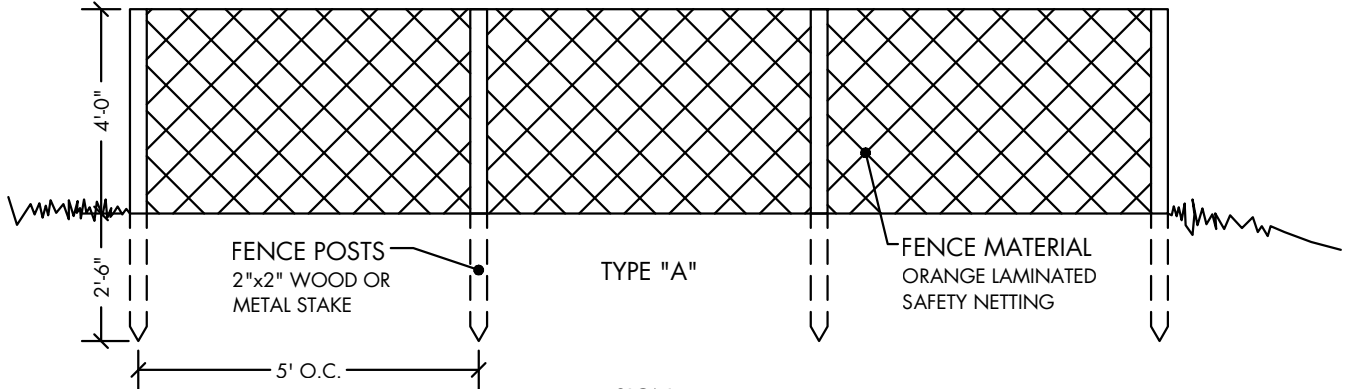
		
BY	REVISION	DATE

**TREE PLANTING
IN PARKING LOTS**
(TYPICAL SECTION)

08/01/2015

STD. L-5

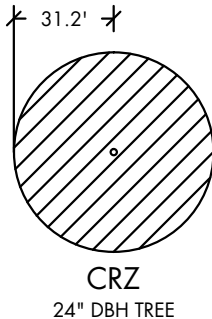
FENCE LOCATION
 AT LIMITS OF CRITICAL ROOT ZONE
 (CRZ RADIUS = 1.3' PER 1" DBH)
 OR AS SHOWN ON THE TREE PROTECTION PLAN



NOTES:

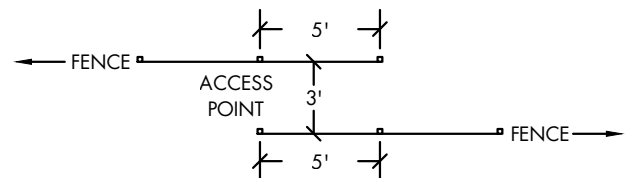
1. ALL TREE PROTECTION DEVICES ARE TO BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO THE START OF LAND DISTURBANCE AND MAINTAINED UNTIL FINAL LANDSCAPING IS INSTALLED. NO PARKING, STORAGE OR OTHER CONSTRUCTION SITE ACTIVITIES ARE TO OCCUR WITHIN THE TREE PROTECTION AREA.
2. PROVIDE 4" DEEP WOOD CHIP MULCH OVER ANY UNPROTECTED ROOT ZONE.
3. MAKE CLEAN CUTS ON ROOTS EXPOSED BY GRADING AND BACKFILL IMMEDIATELY.
4. INSTALLATION SHALL INVOLVE NO TRENCHING.
5. SIGNS TO BE PLACED AT 50' INTERVALS ALONG FENCING. SIGNS TO BE A MINIMUM OF 8½" X 11". SIGNS TO READ:

KEEP OUT
 TREE PROTECTION AREA
 PROHIBIDO
 ZONA PROTECTORA PARA LOS ARBOLES



ACCESS POINT

ALL TREE PROTECTION/LOD FENCING MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF ONE ACCESS POINT EVERY 200' OF FENCING. ACCESS POINT SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED AS BELOW.

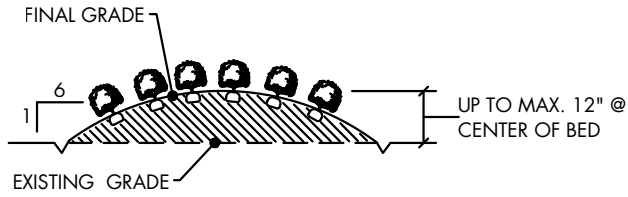


<p>THE CITY OF ALPHARETTA GEORGIA</p>		
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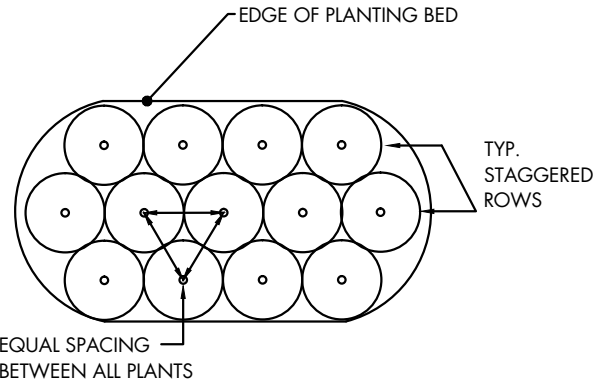
TREE PROTECTION / L.O.D.
 FENCING

08/01/2015

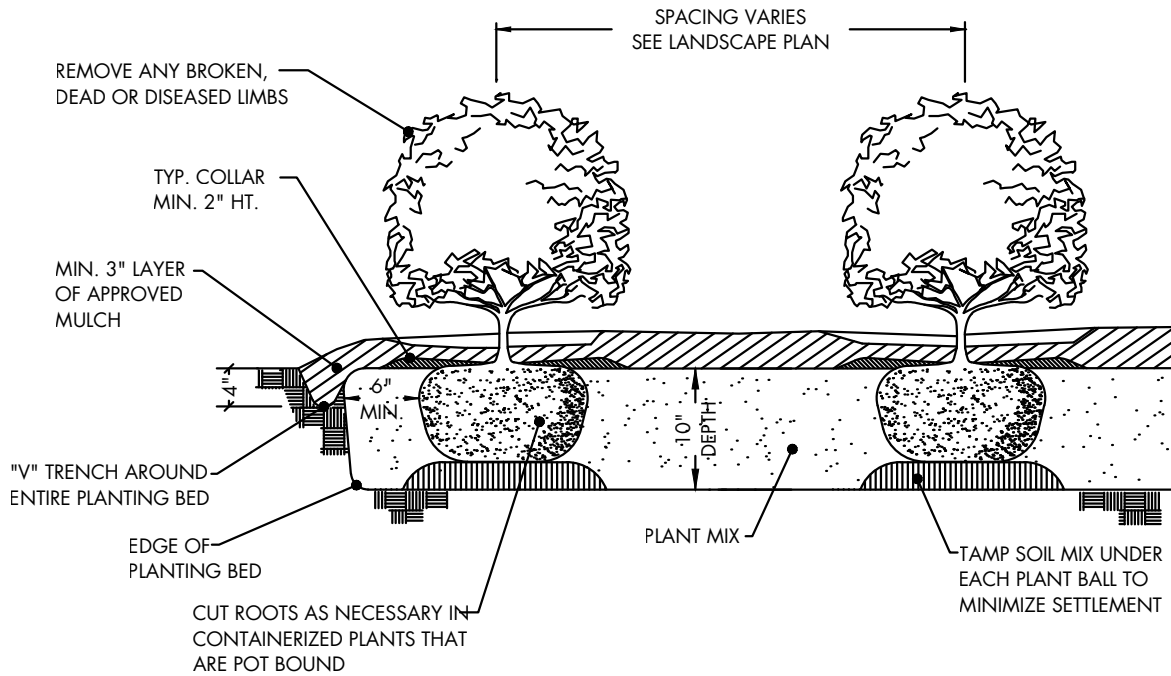
STD. L-6



TYPICAL BED MOUNDING



TYPICAL PLANTING BED PLAN



TYPICAL PLANTING BED DETAIL

NOTES:

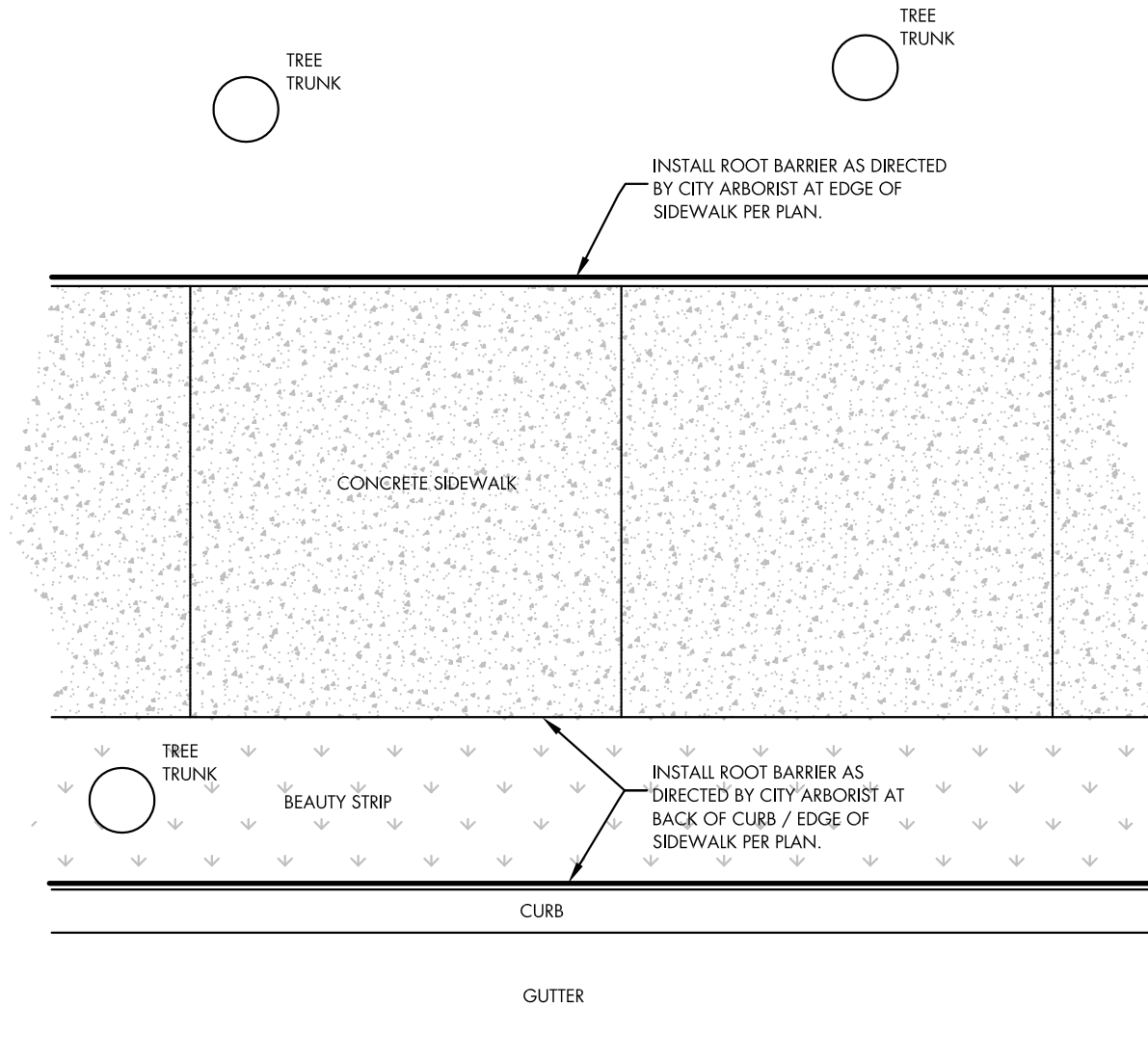
1. OMIT COLLAR AROUND EACH SHRUB WHEN IRRIGATION SYSTEM IS PRESENT.
2. INSTALL TOP OF PLANT BALL 2"-3" ABOVE ADJACENT GRADE.
3. TAMP PLANTING MIX FIRMLY AS PIT IS FILLED AROUND EACH PLANT BALL.
4. SOAK EACH PLANT BALL AND PIT IMMEDIATELY AFTER INSTALLATION.

BY	REVISION	DATE

SHRUB PLANTING BED


08/01/2015

STD. L-7



NOTES:

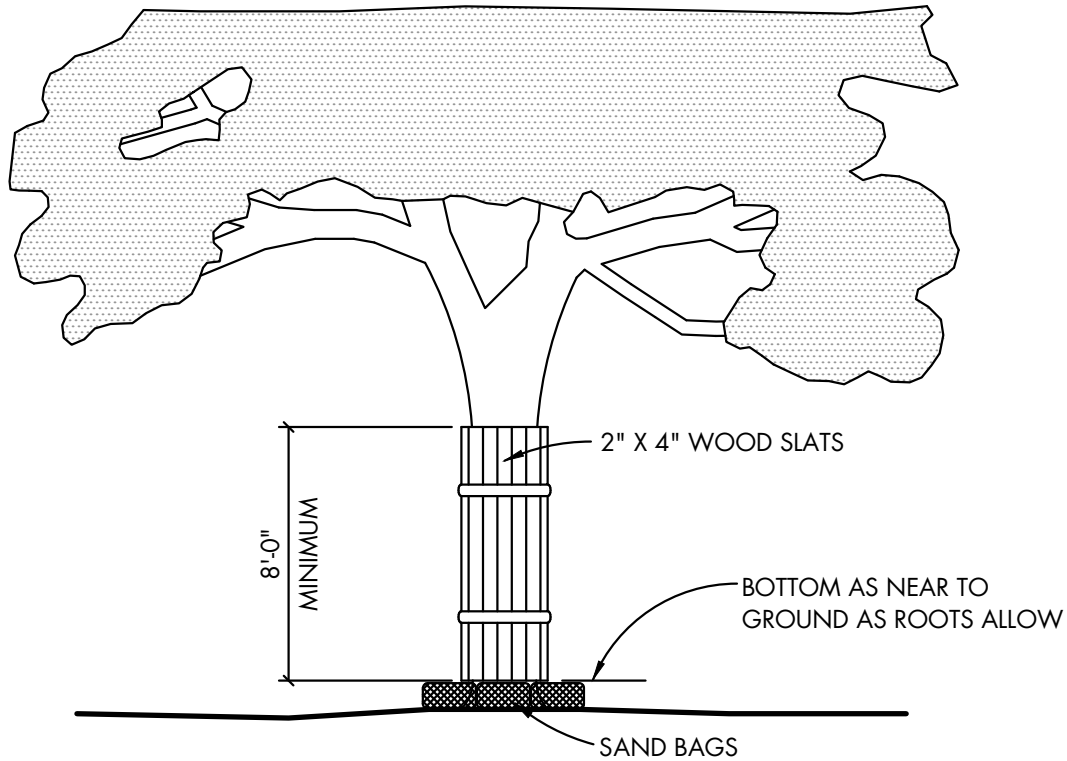
1. ROOT BARRIERS SHALL BE REQUIRED WHEN TREES ARE PLANTED OR ARE EXISTING WITHIN 10' OF ALL CITY OWNED AND MAINTAINED HARDSCAPES.
2. ROOT BARRIERS SHALL BE INSTALLED ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE HARDSCAPES FOR THE EXPECTED CRZ OF THE TREE AT MATURITY OR ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE HARDSCAPE.
3. ROOT BARRIER SHALL BE HIGH DENSITY AND HIGH IMPACT PLASTIC, A MINIMUM 18" DEEP, AS AVAILABLE FROM "DEEP ROOT", VESPRO, INC, OR EQUIVALENT AS APPROVED BY CITY OF ALPHARETTA. BIO BARRIER OR SIMILAR MAY BE SUBSTITUTED, AS APPROVED BY THE CITY.
4. TOP OF ROOT BARRIER SHALL BE SET A MINIMUM OF 1/2" ± ABOVE FINISHED GRADE OF SOIL. HOWEVER, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE TOP OF ROOT BARRIER EXTEND ABOVE ADJACENT CURB, SIDEWALK OR OTHER HARD SURFACING, AND SHALL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS. PLEASE PROVIDE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.

		
PCB	REVISE NOTE #1	8/24/16
BY	REVISION	DATE

ROOT BARRIER DETAIL
(FOR PUBLIC SIDEWALKS OR CURBING)


08/01/2015

STD. L-8



NOTES:

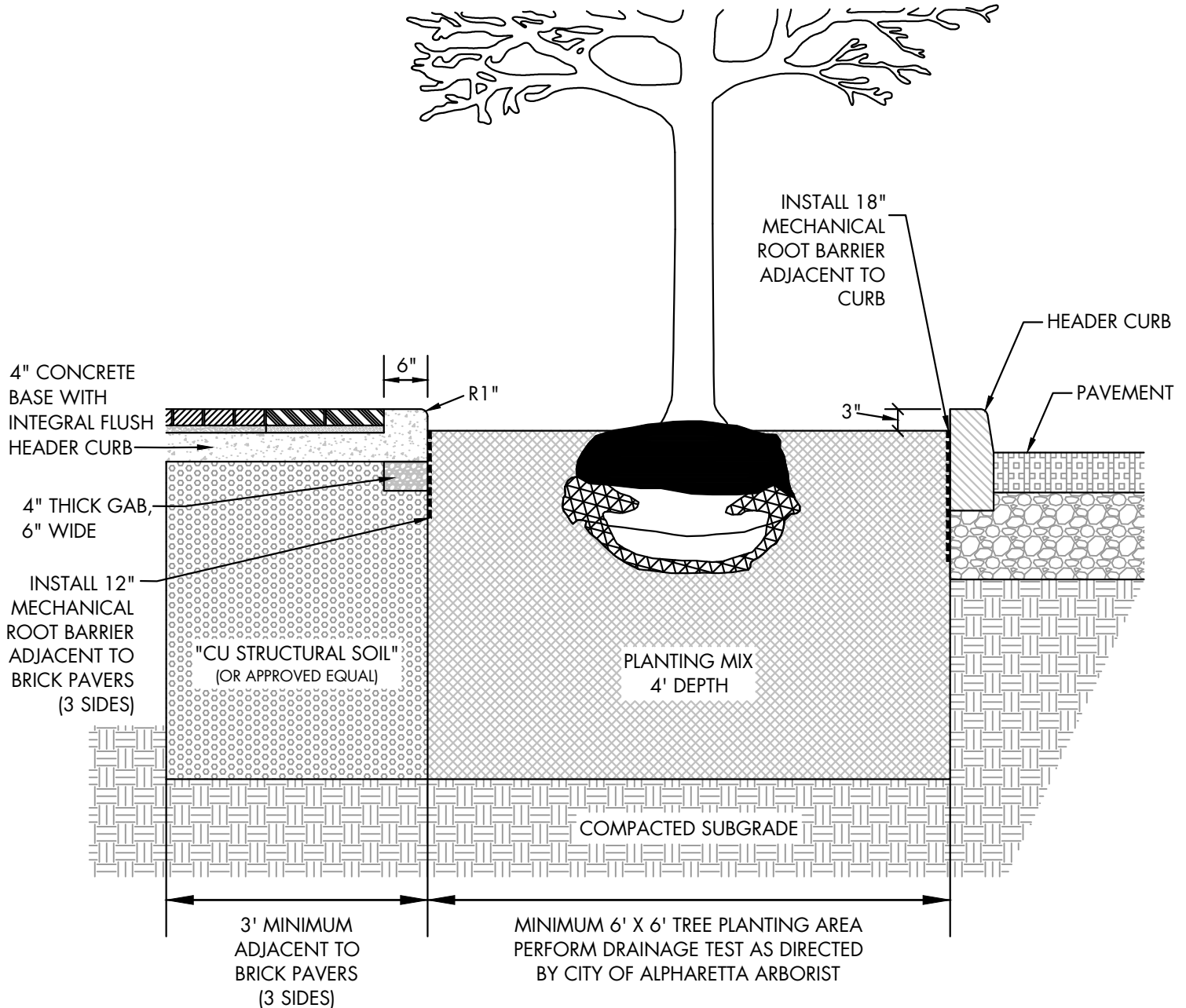
1. WHERE ANY EXCEPTIONS RESULT IN A FENCE BEING CLOSER THAN TEN FEET (10'-0") TO A TREE TRUNK; PROTECT THE TRUNK WITH STRAPPED-ON-PLANKING TO A HEIGHT OF EIGHT FEET (8'-0"), OR TO THE LIMITS OF LOWER BRANCHING, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIRED ORANGE LAMINATE FENCING.
2. ANY ROOTS EXPOSED BY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY SHALL BE PRUNED FLUSH WITH THE SOIL. BACKFILL ROOT AREAS WITH GOOD QUALITY TOP SOIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF EXPOSED ROOT AREAS ARE NOT BACKFILLED WITHIN TWO (2) DAYS, COVER THEM WITH ORGANIC MATERIAL IN A MANNER WHICH REDUCES SOIL TEMPERATURE, AND MINIMIZES WATER LOSS DUE TO EVAPORATION.
3. PRIOR TO EXCAVATION OR GRADE CUTTING WITHIN TREE CRZ, MAKE A CLEAN CUT BETWEEN THE DISTURBED AND UNDISTURBED ROOT ZONES WITH A PRUNING SAW, DITCH WITCH OR SIMILAR EQUIPMENT, TO MINIMIZE DAMAGE TO REMAINING ROOTS.
4. TREES MOST HEAVILY IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES SHALL BE WATERED DEEPLY ONCE A WEEK DURING PERIODS OF HOT, DRY WEATHER.
5. SAND BAGS OR HAY BALES SHALL BE PLACED ON THE ROOT FLARES AND ANY EXPOSED STRUCTURAL ROOTS.
6. ALL EXPOSED, RIPPED, AND TORN ROOTS GREATER THAN ONE-HALF INCH (1/2") SHALL BE CLEAN CUT.
7. NO LANDSCAPE TOPSOIL DRESSING GREATER THE FOUR INCHES (4") SHALL BE PERMITTED WITHIN THE CRZ OF A TREE. NO SOIL IS PERMITTED ON THE ROOT FLARE OF ANY TREE.
8. PRUNING TO PROVIDE CLEARANCE FOR STRUCTURES, VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND EQUIPMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE BEFORE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS.

		
BY	REVISION	DATE

<p>TREE PROTECTION - WOOD SLATS</p>
<p>08/01/2015</p>
<p>STD. L-9</p>

NOTES:

1. INSTALLATION OF "CU STRUCTURAL SOIL" (OR APPROVED EQUAL) AND BRICK PAVING MUST BE UNDERTAKEN BY AN EXPERIENCED CONTRACTOR. THE CONTRACTOR MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH THE SPECIFIED MATERIALS AND BE ABLE TO SHOW PROOF OF THIS EXPERIENCE. SAMPLES OF ALL MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED AND BE APPROVED BY THE CITY. THIS WORK WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE CITY OF ALPHARETTA.
2. IN AREAS NOT ADJACENT TO A TREE PLANTING AREA, THE "CU STRUCTURAL SOIL" (OR APPROVED EQUAL) EXTENDS TO THE BACK OF CURB.
3. LOCATE ALL UTILITIES PRIOR TO DIGGING TREE PITS. DO NOT SPRAY PAINT NEW PAVERS AND CONCRETE INDICATED TO REMAIN. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WHEN LOCATING UTILITIES, NOTIFY ENGINEER OF ANY CONFLICTS WITH UTILITY LINES.
4. REFERENCE CITY OF ALPHARETTA LANDSCAPE DETAILS L1, L2, L3, L4 AND L8 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TREE PLANTING, ANCHORING AND ROOT BARRIER.



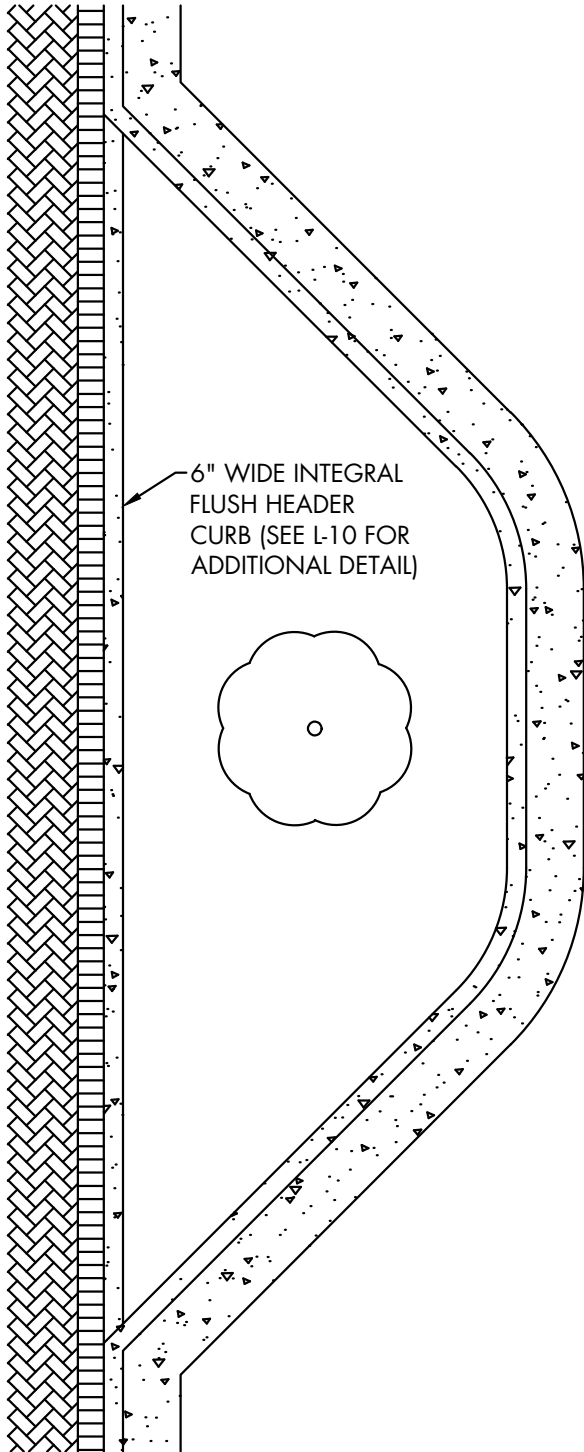
GS	ADDED INTEGRAL HEADER CURB	06-07-2024
BY	REVISION	DATE

TREE WELL IN
BRICK SIDEWALK
(SECTION)

02/19/2016

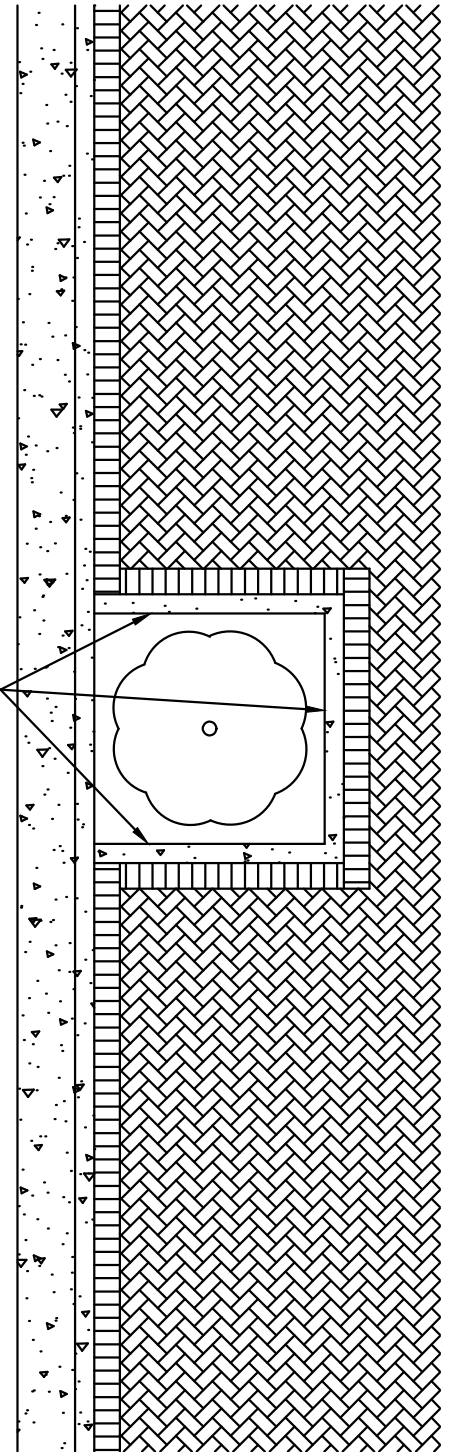
STD. L-10

PARALLEL PARKING STREET TREE BUMP-OUT
ADJACENT TO BRICK SIDEWALK




6" WIDE INTEGRAL
FLUSH HEADER
CURB (SEE L-10 FOR
ADDITIONAL DETAIL)

TREE WELL WITHIN BRICK SIDEWALK



6" WIDE INTEGRAL FLUSH
HEADER CURB ALONG
THREE SIDES (SEE L-10
FOR ADDITIONAL DETAIL)

 <p>THE CITY OF ALPHARETTA GEORGIA</p>		
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TREE WELL IN OR ADJACENT
TO BRICK SIDEWALK (PLAN)

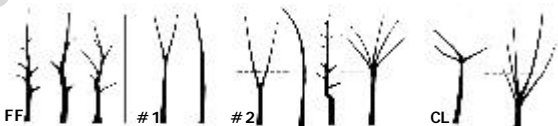
06/07/2024

STD. L-11

Tree Grading Cue Card

provided by Roots Plus GrowersSM

1 Look inside the crown of the tree at the trunk form.



2 Check branch arrangement.



3 Choose appropriate tree matrix type.

- Type 1- spreading and rounded shapes.
ex. live oak, dogwood, black olive, gumbo limbo
- Type 2- pyramidal shapes.
ex. river birch, bald cypress, cedar, pine
- Type 3- columnar / upright shapes.
ex. 'East Palatka' holly, schefflera, Italian cypress
- Type 4- vase shapes.
ex. crape-myrtle, buttonwood, ligustrum, redbud
- Type 5- oval shapes.
ex. red maple, podocarpus, tabebuia, dahoon holly

Refer to the matrix tables in the Grades and Standards when necessary to determine proper root ball size, container size, crown spread, and height.

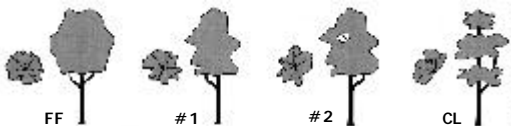
4 Measure the caliper of the trunk.

Trunk caliper is measured 6 inches from the ground on trees up to and including 4 inches in caliper, and 12 inches above the ground for larger trees. Diameter at 4½ feet (DBH) is not considered an appropriate measurement for nursery trees.

5 Grade the tree based on crown spread.

If the crown spread does not look proportional to the tree, use the matrix table you selected above along with the trunk caliper measurement to determine the crown spread for the tree. For this step select a grade based on crown spread only.

6 Grade the tree according to structural uniformity.



7 Make note of the lowest grade determined in steps 1, 2, 5, and 6.

8 Reduce grade determined in step 7 by one grade if any **one** of the following is true.

- ✓ Tree with a trunk caliper >1" needs a stake to hold it upright.
- ✓ The root ball or container is undersized. (*consult tree matrix*)
- ✓ B&B root ball is not properly pinned, tied or wired.
- ✓ Tree is excessively root-bound.
- ✓ Evidence of large roots growing out of container. (*1/5 trunk diam*)
- ✓ Crown is thin and sparsely foliated. (*allow for harvesting/time of year*)
- ✓ More than 5% of branches have tip dieback.

9 Reduce grade determined in step 8 by one grade if **two** of the following are true.

*If only one is true, do not reduce the grade. However, it takes only **one** true statement to reduce a Florida Fancy to a Florida #1. If more than two of the following are true reduce the grade by two.*

- ✓ Tree height is not in proper proportion. (*consult tree matrix*)
- ✓ Flush cuts were made when pruning branches from the trunk.
- ✓ Branch stubs are left beyond the branch collar.
- ✓ Open trunk wounds or other bark injury is evident.
- ✓ Graft unions are not complete.
- ✓ More than the lower 40% of the trunk is free of branches.
- ✓ More than 5% of canopy is chlorotic/pest & disease damaged.
- ✓ Most leaves are smaller than normal.
- ✓ Included bark between main trunks or trunk and major branch.
- ✓ Trunks and/or major branches are touching.

10 Tree is a cull if it has a root greater than 1/10th the diameter of the trunk circling around more than 1/3rd of the trunk in the top half of the root ball.

Important Grading Notes

- ☞ Remember that grading a tree should be a quick process. Once you are familiar with the process it should only take a few seconds to grade a single tree.
- ☞ When grading small maturing trees such as crape-myrtle, cattley guava, wax privet, yaupon holly, lignum-vitae, wax myrtle or other small-maturing trees skip steps 1, 2, and 4.
- ☞ Trunks do not have to be straight to be a Florida Fancy or Florida #1. See drawings for Florida Fancy and Florida #1 in step one.
- ☞ A trunk dogleg is defined as a significant 's'-shaped deformation in the trunk. This is illustrated in the figure to the right. *The angle 'A' can be no more than 30°. The distance 'B' can be no more than the trunk diameter.*



This tree grading cue card was provided to you courtesy of the Roots Plus Field Growers Association of Florida



Growing Quality Field-Grown Trees