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LIST OF PLATES

Standard Designation	Plate No.	Description	Section
N/A	1A-12	Tree Inventory and Poor Condition Analysis, 35-foot Inventory Zone	12-0307.1, 12-0307.2C
N/A	1B-12	Tree Inventory and Condition Analysis-Poor Condition, Hazardous and Dead Trees	12-0307.1B, 12-0307.2B, 12-0307.2C
N/A	2-12	Critical Root Zones and Driplines of Trees	12-0307.2D, 12-0307.2E
N/A	3-12	Tunneling	12-0202.1
N/A	4-12	Energy Conservation Tree Canopy Credit	12-0310.4B(2)(a), 12-0310.4B(2)(b)
N/A	5-12	Deck Planter	12-0401.1D(3)
N/A	6-12	Tree Protection Fence Installation	12-0305.1B, 12-0503.1B
N/A	7-12	Root Pruning	12-0502.1, 12-0504.20
N/A	8-12	Planting for Tree Seedlings	12-0505.5F
N/A	9-12	Pruning Cuts	12-0506.5A

12-0100 PURPOSE AND INTENT

- 12-0100.1 The purpose and intent of [§ 12-0000](#) *et seq.* is to provide plan submission requirements, technical specifications and on-site practices that support the administration, implementation and enforcement of the tree conservation requirements of the Code including [Chapter 101 \(Subdivision Ordinance\)](#), [Chapter 104 \(Erosion and Sedimentation Control\)](#), [Articles 13 and 17 of the Zoning Ordinance](#), [Chapter 118 \(Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance\)](#), [Chapter 120 \(Heritage, Specimen, Memorial and Street Tree Ordinance\)](#) and [Chapter 122 \(Tree Conservation Ordinance\)](#).
- 12-0100.2 On Oct. 20, 2008, the [Board](#) adopted an ordinance entitled “[Tree Conservation Ordinance](#)” which became [Chapter 122](#) of the Code. The new [Tree Conservation Ordinance](#) is based on the authority and mandates of [Va. Code Ann § 15.2-961.1](#) which enables jurisdictions located in Virginia Planning District 8 and classified as part of an eight-hour nonattainment area for ozone to enact local tree ordinances that emphasize tree preservation over tree planting when meeting tree canopy requirements. At that same time, this chapter was renamed “Tree Conservation” and rewritten to incorporate plan submission requirements, specifications and practices that support existing authority to conserve vegetation during land development pursuant to Chapters [101](#), [104](#), [112](#), and [118](#) of the Code in addition to new Chapter [122](#) of the Code.

12-0200 STANDARDS FOR PRESERVING TREES AND FORESTED AREAS

12-0201 Purpose. The purpose of this section is to provide standards that will optimize the preservation of structurally sound, healthy and functional trees and forested areas; minimize the retention of high-risk tree conditions that have potential to cause personal injury or property damage; minimize harmful practices and conditions that can degrade the long-term health, structure, functionality and regenerative capacity of forested areas; and to provide guidance concerning which trees can and cannot be used to meet 10-year Tree Canopy requirements.

12-0202 Preservation Design Standards. Development sites must be designed and constructed in a manner that: limits the extent of land disturbance to the minimum area needed to construct the proposed use; minimizes the negative impacts of permissible construction activities and practices on trees and forested areas; and, places staging and temporary storage areas, buildings, utility connections, roads, parking areas, recreational amenities, stormwater management facilities and all other land development in a manner that minimizes direct physiological damage to root systems and above ground portions of on-site and off-site trees and forested areas and minimizes changes to environmental conditions that trees and forested areas are dependent on to survive.

12-0202.1 Constructability. Tree preservation efforts must take into account the constructability of the development site and the limitations imposed by tree physiology and its dependency on pre-development environmental conditions. Adequate clearing must be shown for the installation of water, storm, sanitary sewer lines and existing utilities to be relocated. Clearing limits must include room for trench wall sloping or benching, equipment access and deposition of soil. The limits of clearing for the installation of underground lines must be adequate for the size of line and depth of installation. Generally, clearing limits should be equal to four times the depth of the trench. Wherever adequate space does not exist for utility clearing, the utility lines must be installed using trenchless methods, sheeting and shoring, trench boxes, or tunneling (see [Plate 3-12](#)). If such methods are to be used, a note on the plan must be provided indicating which sections of utilities are to be installed using these methods.

12-0202.2 Area shown for reserve lines for septic fields may not be shown to be cleared except when required under one or more of the following circumstances:

- A. Clearing is necessary to provide a minimum horizontal distance of 10 feet between the proposed septic field and any tree.
- B. Clearing is necessary to properly grade reserve areas which are alternated between proposed active septic field lines.

C. Clearing is otherwise lawfully required by the [Health Department](#).

12-0203 Tree Condition Standards

12-0203.1 Definition. For purposes of administering this Chapter, a tree is any self-supporting woody plant which visually produces one main trunk and a more or less distinct and elevated head with many branches that typically reach at least 15 feet in height at maturity, and for purposes related to 10-year Tree Canopy requirements exceeds five feet in height at time of plan submission.

12-0203.2 Pre-Development Tree Condition Standards. Trees designated to be preserved with trunks located within 100 feet of the limits of clearing generally must be in fair to excellent condition at the time of plan submission. The following criteria for structural integrity and health must be used to determine the condition of the tree, using the guidance for determining the “Condition” factor for plant appraisal methodologies provided in the current [Guide for Plant Appraisal](#), published by the [International Society of Arboriculture](#).

A. Structural Integrity. Trees designated to be preserved should have a high degree of structural integrity that enables the tree to remain firmly anchored to the soil and growing in a stable manner that is vertically oriented. Trees designated to be preserved with trunks that are located within 100 feet of the proposed limits of clearing should: have healthy crowns; have structurally sound trunks that support strong branch attachments and be free of major wounds, decay and cavities that could threaten the structural integrity of the roots, trunk and scaffold branches. Trees to be preserved should not exhibit: raised and exposed root systems; broken, dead or decayed roots; exaggerated leans; unbalanced upper crown development and weight; broken or dead scaffold branches; included bark; cambium layer wounds, girdling; and, any other condition that the Director determines to undermine the structural condition and safety of trees.

B. Health. Trees designated to be preserved may not exhibit signs of health-threatening disease and organisms that are causing or could cause significant levels of defoliation die-back and decay or could otherwise cause a significant decline in the health and structural integrity of the tree. Trees to be preserved also must be reasonably free of signs of disease or disorder caused by herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, petroleum-based chemicals or other abiotic agents that the Director determines to be injurious to trees and forested areas.

12-0203.3 Trees that do not meet pre-development standards for structural integrity and health will not be afforded tree canopy cover credits for purposes of meeting 10-year Tree Canopy requirements.

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- 12-0203.4 Trees located on the development site within 100 feet of the proposed limits of clearing that do not meet standards for structural integrity and health identified in [§§ 12-0203.2A](#) and [.2B](#) above must be identified on Tree Conservation Plans and designated within the tree preservation plan and narrative as being subject to additional inspection, removal, pruning or other practices identified in [§ 12-0500](#) at time of the initial land clearing phase.
- 12-0203.5 Post-Development Tree Condition Standards. Trees designated to be preserved should survive construction in a manner that substantially retains their pre-development level of biological function, health and structural condition.
- A. Any tree that the Director determines is unlikely to survive construction due to direct physical damage to root systems and above ground portions of trees; soil compaction; the addition or removal of soil within critical root zones; changes to soil hydrology, changes to drainage patterns, increased solar exposure, increased exposure to wind, changes to ambient air temperatures; and any other environmental factor that the Director determines could result in or predispose trees to structural failure and health problems will not be allowed to be retained or afforded canopy credits for purposes of meeting 10-year Tree Canopy requirements. Individual trees that will have 40 percent or more of the critical root zone disturbed by construction are not generally recommended for preservation.
- B. Trees, or portions thereof, determined by the Director to be dead, declining, hazardous or a maintenance nuisance due to impacts from construction or environmental changes that resulted from construction; or, trees or portions thereof that are hazardous to either life or property because of conditions not related to construction will be subject to removal or other corrective action as further stated in [§ 12-0504.14](#) and [§ 12-0506.3A](#).
- 12-0203.6 Leaving Dead Trunks for Wildlife Benefits. The main trunks of dead trees may be allowed to remain on sites where the Director determines that a “trunk snag” may provide habitat or other wildlife benefits and have little or no potential to cause personal injury or property damage, or to obstruct streams or other drainage.
- 12-0204 Forested Area Condition Standards**
- 12-0204.1 Definition. For purposes of administering the provisions of this Chapter, forested areas are comprised of self-supporting tree and woody plants that exceed five feet in height at time of plan submission and meet criteria for health, condition and suitability as further defined in this section. Areas that meet the administrative definition provided above usually represent native forest or woodland plant communities that occur in a range of successional stages from rapidly changing early successional pioneer woodlands to stable long-term sub-climax and climax

forests. During mid to late successional stages, these plant communities typically consist of multiple layers of vegetation and other natural features including: super- and sub-canopy tree species; woody shrubs, herbaceous plants, vines, non-vascular plants and epiphytes; decaying leaf litter, root mass, fungi, soil biota; and abiotic components which the vegetation is dependent upon such as: soils, hydrologic conditions, and underlying geomorphic features.

- A. Forest communities in Fairfax County often lack indigenous vegetation components that have been suppressed or supplanted by invasive, non-native plants. Invasive plants must be managed to ensure the long-term health and functionality of native forest communities.
- B. It is the intent of this Chapter to provide for the protection and management of all the biotic components and abiotic conditions that may be present in a forested area designated to be preserved regardless of the successional stage.

12-0204.2

Pre-development Forested Area Condition. Forested areas that are designated for preservation ideally are comprised of healthy, functional native plant communities. However, virtually all tree canopy in Fairfax County has been generated on land previously used for a wide variety of uses. Former uses often leave debris scattered throughout regenerated forest stands. In addition to debris, soil profiles that have been disturbed by former uses often facilitate the growth and spread of invasive and noxious plants.

- A. For the reasons stated above, forested areas designated to be preserved should not contain human health and safety risks such as: hazardous trees; open post holes; containers of toxic materials; hunting stands and tree forts; abandoned cars; protruding wires and metal objects; and noxious plants such as poison ivy that occur in high densities.
- B. Forested areas should not contain invasive plant species at levels that endanger the long-term ecological functionality, health, and regenerative capacity of any native plant communities that are present.
- C. If risks to human health and safety or invasive plants exist in forested areas to be preserved, then tree preservation plans and narratives must address how hazardous conditions will be eliminated and how invasive plants will be managed. Efforts to eliminate hazards and manage invasive plants must be implemented in a careful manner that minimizes disruption to the vegetation and soil conditions present in preservation areas. The Director may allow human health and safety risks of a minor nature or minor levels of invasive plants to remain within forested areas if it is anticipated that associated removal or management practices would result in substantial ecologic or

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environmental damage or if removal of vegetation is prohibited under existing or proposed easements.

- 12-0204.3 Post-development Forested Area Condition. Individual trees and forested areas designated to be preserved must be protected and managed during all phases of demolition, clearing and grading, and construction.
- A. Forested areas must survive construction in a manner that preserves the ecological functionality, health, and condition of any super- and sub-canopy tree species; woody shrubs, herbaceous plants, vines, non-vascular plants, and epiphytes; decaying leaf litter, root mass, fungi, soil biota, and soil conditions that are present at time of plan submission.
- 12-0204.4 Post-Development Forested Area Size and Dimension Standard for 10-year Tree Canopy credits. In order to ensure long-term survival and regenerative capacity of forest communities, forested areas intended to count towards the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement should meet minimum size and area requirements described in [Table 12.1](#). Forested areas consisting of sizes or dimensions smaller than these minimal standards, if approved by the Director as described in [§ 12-0204.4A](#), may count towards meeting 10-year Tree Canopy requirements; however, these areas are not eligible for the default canopy credit multiplier of 1.25 or any of the additional canopy credit multipliers listed in [§ 12-0310.3B](#). The following area and width specifications are measurements of the ground surface area of preservation areas.

Successional Stage	Minimum Area Size ft²	Minimum Width ft
Early Successional	2,178	10
Sub-Climax	4,356	20
Long-term Sub-climax and Climax	10,000	35

Note: The above minimum sizes and dimensions are intended to be applied to the surface area of the undisturbed portions of tree preservation areas

- A. The Director may allow for deviations from the minimum forested area size and dimension standards listed in [Table 12.1](#) for the preservation of individual trees or stands of trees that have not developed in a forested setting; where areas smaller than minimal standards will be preserved adjacent to areas located on adjoining property that are currently protected by means of open space dedication or by means of a deed restriction such as a conservation easement; or, where it can be demonstrated that additional treatments or

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practices will be implemented to ensure the long-term survival of the tree canopy in such areas.

12-0300 TREE CONSERVATION PLAN REQUIREMENTS

- 12-0300.1 Conservation Plan. [Section 104-1-2](#) of the Code states that a conservation plan is required of anyone engaging in land disturbing activities in the County.
- A. Tree Conservation Plan. A Tree Conservation Plan is required when land disturbance requiring a conservation plan also involves one or more of the following scenarios.
1. Land disturbance has potential to destroy or degrade on-site trees or trees located on adjacent property, including trees designated for preservation through the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code.
 2. Development sites are required to preserve or plant trees to meet 10-year Tree Canopy requirements of [Chapter 122](#) of the Code, or to meet related provisions of Chapters [101](#), [104](#), and [112](#) of the Code.
 3. Development sites are required to preserve or plant trees and/or other plant materials and landscape features in order to comply with Parking Lot Landscaping or Transitional Screening and Barrier Requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#); or to comply with tree or landscaping requirements of proffered conditions; development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions or variance approvals.
 4. Development sites are required to restore forested areas within an Resource Protection Area as required by [Chapter 118](#) of the Code and as further defined by [§ 12-0316.4](#).
 5. Development sites are required to replant trees or vegetation in accord with the provisions of [§ 12-0316](#); or, are required to address violations issued for land disturbing activity involving the removal of trees without an approved plan in accordance with [Chapter 104](#) of the Code and as further defined by [§ 12-0316.5](#).
- 12-0300.2 Tree Conservation Plans must be submitted as part of all preliminary subdivision plats, construction plans, grading plans, and rough grading plans as required by [Chapter 101](#) (Subdivision Ordinance) of the Code.
- 12-0300.3 Tree Conservation Plans must be submitted as part of all site plans as required by Article 17 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#).
- 12-0300.4 Tree Conservation Plans must be submitted as part of all grading plans for Building Permits on existing lots that are not within a subdivision currently

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bonded with the County and parcels with lots of 5 acres or more as required by [Chapter 104](#) (Erosion and Sedimentation Control) of the Code.

12-0300.5 A site plan, preliminary subdivision plat, subdivision construction plan, grading plan, or rough grading plan approved by the Director and meeting the requirements of this chapter constitute an approved Tree Conservation Plan.

12-0301 General Tree Conservation Plan Submission Requirements

12-0301.1 Except as may be modified by [§ 12-0303](#), all Tree Conservation Plans must address the following plan submission requirements.

- A. Site Engineering and Layout Information. In addition to plan information that is specific to tree conservation, Tree Conservation Plans must contain all proposed engineering and layout information needed to conduct a thorough review of proposed tree preservation, tree planting and landscaping requirements. This information will match the information provided in the associated site plan, preliminary subdivision plat, subdivision construction plan, grading plan, or rough grading plan.
- B. Existing Vegetation Map. Information about the general composition and extent of existing vegetation must be provided in accordance with [§ 12-0306](#). Please note that zoning applications may require the submission of an Existing Vegetation Map.
- C. Tree Preservation Target Calculations and Narrative. Tree Conservation Plans must contain calculations and a statement of compliance with or a proposed deviation from the Tree Preservation Target requirements of the [Chapter 122](#) of the Code and [§ 12-0308](#). Tree Conservation Plans that include requests to deviate from the Tree Preservation Target must provide a narrative containing all the information and documentation as provided in [§ 12-0308](#).
- D. 10-year Tree Canopy Requirements and Calculations. Any Tree Conservation Plan that must address 10-year Tree Canopy requirements of the [Chapter 122](#) of the Code must provide 10-year Tree Canopy calculations. Guidance on preparing the calculations is provided in [§ 12-0311](#).

12-0302 Additional Tree Conservation Plan Submission Requirements

12-0302.1 The following information may need to be included in Tree Conservation Plans if warranted by site-specific conditions or to satisfy additional requirements identified in preparing the Tree Conservation Plan to meet the General Submission Requirements described in [§ 12-0301](#).

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- A. Tree Inventory and Condition Analysis. Plans that involve removal and/or preservation of existing trees must provide tree inventory and condition analysis information in accordance with [§§ 12-0307](#) and [12-0303.3](#).
- B. Plans that involve tree preservation must provide a tree preservation plan and narrative as provided in [§ 12-0309](#).
- C. Tree Banking and Tree Fund. Plans requesting relief from providing on-site 10-year Tree Canopy requirements must provide all documentation, information, and plans in accordance with [§ 12-0312](#).
- D. Modifications to 10-year Tree Canopy Requirements. Plans involving a request to modify 10-year Tree Canopy requirements as provided by the [Chapter 122](#) of the Code must provide all information, plan elements and documents that may be required by the Director to review the request for modification as part of the first submission of plans as further described in [§ 12-0313](#).
- E. Interior Parking Lot Landscaping Requirements. All plans providing a parking lot with 20 or more spaces must provide interior parking lot landscaping information, calculations, and graphic elements in accordance with [§ 12-0314](#).
- F. Landscape Plan. Plans providing tree planting or other landscaping treatments to satisfy 10-year Tree Canopy requirements; Parking Lot Landscaping or Transitional Screening and Barrier Requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#); proffered conditions; or development plan, conceptual/final development plan, PRC plan, special permit, special exceptions or variance approvals must provide a landscape plan in accordance with [§ 12-0315](#).
- G. Requirements and Specifications for Replacement Trees. The Director may require that trees located in areas shown to be preserved on an approved Tree Conservation Plan be replaced if removed without prior permission from the Director or if so damaged as to require removal. If required by the Director, a revision to the approved Tree Conservation Plan must be submitted showing the extent of overclearing, proposed new limits of clearing, locations of trees to be removed, the location of replacement trees or seedlings and other information as required by [§ 12-0316](#).
- H. A Forest Management Plan must be submitted for approval by the Director when the State Forester is required to be notified of a timber harvesting operation. The operation must be conducted pursuant to an approved forest management plan. Such plan must be prepared in accordance with [§ 12-0317](#).

12-0303

Modifications to Tree Conservation Plan Submission Requirements

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- 12-0303.1 Plan Submission Requirements for minor land disturbing activities and Public Improvement Plans. Grading plans associated with additions to existing residential structures; grading plans associated with the construction of residential accessory uses; demolition plans; grading plans associated with tear downs and rebuilds on existing foundations, minor site plans and public improvement plans for trails, sidewalks, sanitary and stormwater pipes installation, or other development scenarios that present a minor threat to existing tree resources, or other public improvement projects of a linear nature are not required to include an Existing Vegetation Map, Tree Preservation Target Calculations and Narrative, 10-year Tree Canopy calculations, Tree Inventory and Condition Analysis, and Tree preservation plan and narrative.
- A. All minor land development scenarios and public improvement plans of a linear nature must address applicable submission requirements of [§ 12-0304](#) and [§ 12-0305](#). At a minimum these plans must take reasonable steps to maximize the preservation of existing vegetation by addressing basic tree preservation plan elements and measures that include: minimizing soil disturbance to only that necessary to construct the project; providing proposed limits of clearing; providing an accurate treeline; and providing tree protection devices at the limits of clearing.
- 12-0303.2 Plan Submission requirements for Preliminary Plans. Preliminary Plans must provide an Existing Vegetation Map prepared in accordance with [§ 12-0306](#), Tree Preservation Target Calculations and Statement prepared in accordance with [§ 12-0308](#), and 10-year Tree Canopy calculations. The Tree Preservation Target and 10-year Tree Canopy calculations must be prepared in accordance with [§ 12-0311](#) based on an estimate of the ultimate clearing needed to facilitate the final development of lots and associated improvements and infrastructure.
- A. Preliminary Plans must address the tree inventory and condition analysis requirements of [§ 12-0307](#) based on an estimate of the ultimate clearing needed to facilitate the final development of lots and associated improvements and infrastructure. However, these plans are not required to identify dead trees or hazardous tree conditions, or to address the management of human safety risks or invasive plant species as otherwise required by [§§ 12-0309.3C](#) and [.3D](#).
- 12-0303.3 The Director may allow a modification of the tree inventory and condition analysis submission requirements of [§ 12-0307](#) if plans meet or exceed the minimum level of tree preservation identified by the Tree Preservation Target provisions of [§ 12-0308](#). In these cases, the Director may allow modifications to the tree inventory and condition analysis if it is determined that the proposed tree preservation efforts are realistic and reasonably expected to conform to the post-development standards for trees and forested areas provided in [§§ 12-0203](#) and

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[12-0204](#). Plans qualifying for a modification of the inventory and condition analysis will at a minimum be required to provide the basic tree preservation plan elements identified in [§ 12-0301](#) and [§ 12-0302](#), to identify off-site trees, any trees protected by [Chapter 120](#) of the Code and any Champion trees as provided in [§ 12-0307](#).

12-0303.4 If the Director determines that significant tree resources or forested areas are threatened by any of the plan types and/or development scenarios identified in [§ 12-0303.1](#), [§ 12-0303.2](#) or [§ 12-0303.3](#), then the Director may require any or all of the Tree Conservation Plan submission requirements of [§ 12-0300](#) to be addressed.

12-0304 Site Engineering and Layout Information

12-0304.1 Site engineering and layout information required for the review of tree conservation and landscaping requirements of this Chapter must include, but is not limited to, proposed site layout and building footprints; proposed and existing property lines, lots and parcels; minimum yard setbacks and building envelopes; location of proposed and existing conservation and utility easements; the location of RPA and floodplain boundaries; the locations of existing and proposed streets, access roads, driveways, pipestem drives, paths, and sidewalks; the location of existing and proposed underground and overhead utilities; streetlight locations; the location of proposed stormwater management and best management practices facilities, including outfalls; proposed changes to topography; the location and type of erosion and sediment controls; and the location of retaining walls.

- A. The existing tree line must be accurately and clearly shown and labeled so that it is understood where the existing trees are located. This delineation must include groups of trees and individual trees standing apart from any forested areas.
- B. The limits of clearing must be shown for all items listed in the definition of “limits of clearing” (see [§ 1-1000.4](#)) for both on-site and off-site construction. The limits must encompass only the proposed area of construction associated with the plan, must be clearly labeled, and may not include any unnecessary clearing.
- C. Other information must be furnished as deemed necessary by the Director to conduct a thorough review of the tree conservation requirements of this chapter.

12-0305 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Sheets

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- 12-0305.1 The limits of clearing shown on the Phase I and II Erosion and Sediment Control Plan sheets must match the limits shown on all other sheets in the plan set (also see [§§ 11-0103](#) and [11-0104](#)).
- A. All erosion and sediment control and tree protection measures must be shown on the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan sheets. Tree protection measures for trees and vegetation to be retained must also be shown on the demolition plan sheet, if provided.
 - B. All erosion and sediment controls and tree protection devices must be placed within the area to be disturbed and may not be located in areas shown to remain undisturbed. Tree protection fencing must be provided at the limits of clearing wherever other control devices are not shown (see [Plate 6-12](#)).
 - C. Temporary sediment basins should be designed to use the natural land forms to minimize grading and vegetation removal. If the construction of sediment basins requires the clearing of trees, replacement trees as specified in [§ 12-0316](#) will be required by the Director so that the area is restored to a natural condition when the basin is removed.
- 12-0305.2 Other information must be furnished as deemed necessary by the Director to conduct a thorough review of the tree conservation requirements of this Section.

12-0306 Existing Vegetation Maps

- 12-0306.1 Except as modified by [§ 12-0303](#), all plans requiring a Tree Conservation Plan must provide a map depicting the location of any of the ten cover types defined in [Table 12.2](#) that occur on the development site. This map must be labeled as the “Existing Vegetation Map” and must accurately delineate all areas of the cover types defined in [Table 12.2](#) that measure 500 square feet or greater in size.
- A. The existing vegetation map must accurately depict the location of the outer canopy edge of individual freestanding trees and forested areas at time of plan submission, and must identify the percentage of the development site covered by tree canopy comprised of self-supporting tree and woody plants that exceed 5 feet in height at time of plan submission. This information will be used for purposes of determining the Tree Preservation Target requirement of [§ 12-0308](#). Note: the driplines of individual trees that are growing within forested areas do not need to be depicted.
 - B. The existing vegetation map must identify the location and dripline of any “Heritage,” “Specimen,” “Memorial” or “Street” tree that has been designated for preservation through the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code that is located on the development site or on adjacent property that has potential to be

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impacted by any on-site or off-site construction activity associated with the proposed development.

- C. The map must provide a statement regarding the successional stage of the vegetation, a list of the primary tree species, a list of the prominent non-native invasive species, and a statement regarding the general health and condition of the vegetation.

Table 12.2 Existing Vegetation Map Cover Types	
The following vegetation and land use cover types must be provided on Existing Vegetation Maps	
(1) Open Field	no trees present; low shrubs, herbaceous meadow or other non-forest or non-woodland plant community
(2) Upland Forest	upland hardwoods: oak, hickory and yellow-poplar upland softwoods: Virginia pine
(3) Early Successional Forest Community	areas of early successional tree canopy dominated by juvenile pioneer species such as Virginia pine, red cedar, tulip poplar, black locust, box elder, sweetgum, black willow, ailanthus, etc. These areas may also contain significant levels of turfgrass and other herbaceous plant materials
(4) Agricultural Land	land currently in use or recently used for agriculture or plant nurseries, as defined in the Zoning Ordinance , except for the growing of trees for sale
(5) Developed Land	areas of constructed features including buildings, parking and roadways
(6) Maintained Grasslands	grassed and landscaped areas, athletic fields or other green areas devoid of natural vegetation
(7) Bottomland Forest	river birch, sycamore, yellow poplar, sweet gum, green ash
(8) Unique or Endangered Forest Community	Use the National Vegetation Classification System (USNVCS) to describe. Include USNVCS Unique Identification Number, USNVCS Name, Global Status and if available, the Rounded Global Status. Example: USNVCS ID: CEG006216 USNVCS Name: Quercus alba - Carya glabra - Fraxinus americana / Cercis canadensis / Muhlenbergia sobolifera - Elymus hystrix Forest Global Status: G3. Rounded Global Status: G3 – Vulnerable
(9) Landscaped tree canopy	tree canopy established through the planting of nursery stock trees that is not part of a natural forest community
(10) Miscellaneous	Areas that do not match the previous cover types. Provide brief description of these areas on the Existing Vegetation Map.

12-0307 Tree Inventory and Condition Analysis

- 12-0307.1 Tree Inventory. All plans requiring the submission of a Tree Preservation Plan and narrative as required by [§ 12-0309](#) must show the accurate trunk location and common name of all trees with trunks 12 inches or greater in diameter located

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within 25 feet of the proposed limits of clearing, within the undisturbed area and within 10 feet of the limits of clearing in the disturbed area, (see [Plate 1A-12](#)). Trees less than 12 in diameter may be required to be addressed as part of these requirements if the Director determines the trees to have significant ecological, cultural or environmental significance.

- A. The diameter of all trees must be measured at a height of 4.5 feet from the base of the trunk or as otherwise allowed in the current [Guide for Plant Appraisal](#), published by the [International Society of Arboriculture](#).
- B. Dead trees. Dead trees measuring 12 inches or greater in diameter that are located on the proposed development site at a distance of 100 feet or less outside of the proposed limits of clearing within the proposed undisturbed area should be identified on the Tree Conservation Plan. In addition, dead trees located 10 feet or less from the proposed limits of clearing and within the proposed area of disturbance should be identified on Tree Conservation Plans. Dead trees should be labeled as “Assessed as dead” (see [Plate 1B-12](#)). These trees will be considered for removal or other arboricultural treatments during land clearing operations as further provided in [§ 12-0501.3](#).

12-0307.2 Poor Condition. Trees measuring 12 inches or greater in diameter located on the development site within 25 feet of the proposed limits of clearing or 10 feet or less from the proposed limits of clearing and within the proposed area of disturbance that does not meet standards for structural integrity and health identified in [§§ 12-0203.2A](#) and [.2B](#) should be labeled on Tree Conservation Plans as “Assessed in Poor Condition.” These trees will be considered for removal or other arboricultural treatments during land clearing operations as further provided in [§ 12-0501.3](#).

- A. Application. The Poor Condition analysis does not require trees that are in the fair to excellent condition range to be labeled as such on plans. Unless otherwise required by proffered conditions; development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions, or variance approvals; only those trees meeting the definition of Poor Condition defined in [§ 12-0307.2A\(1\)](#) must be labeled.
 - 1. Definition. Trees in “Poor Condition” are trees whose roots, trunk, scaffold branches, small branches and twigs, foliage and buds have been evaluated and documented through field observation using the guidance for determining the “Condition” factor for plant appraisal methodologies provided in the current [Guide for Plant Appraisal](#), published by the [International Society of Arboriculture](#), and rated 40 percent or less on a scale of 0 to 100 percent, 0 percent representing a dead tree and 100 percent representing a tree in perfect health and structural condition.

- B. High Risk Trees Conditions. Any tree or portion of a tree located on the proposed development site within 100 feet of the proposed limits of clearing within the proposed undisturbed area, or located 10 feet or less from the proposed limits of clearing and within the proposed area of disturbance that represents a significant risk to human safety should be labeled as “Assessed as High Risk” on the Tree Conservation Plan (see [Plate 1B-12](#)). These trees will be considered for removal or other arboricultural treatments during land clearing operations as further provided in [§ 12-0501.3](#).
- C. Off-site Trees. A tree inventory and poor condition analysis is required for trees located on off-site properties that are 12 inches and greater in diameter located within 25 feet of the proposed limits of clearing. The location, diameter and condition rating of off-site trees may be estimated if the adjacent property owner(s) has not granted permission to access their property. In these cases, the location and diameter measurements must be noted as “location and diameter estimated;” and, if a tree is suspected to be in poor condition from a remote visual assessment, then this must be noted as “suspected as in poor condition” on the plan. Reasonable efforts must be made to lessen the impact of on-site construction activities on off-site trees (see [Plates 1A-12](#) and [1B-12](#)).
- D. Critical Root Zones. Trees 12 inches and greater in diameter located within 25 feet of the proposed limits of clearing within the undisturbed area and within 10 feet of the limits of clearing in the disturbed area, must have their estimated critical root zone delineated on Tree Conservation Plans. Critical root zones must be determined using the formula found in [Plate 2-12](#).
- E. Tree Conservation Plans must identify all “Heritage,” “Specimen,” “Memorial” or “Street” trees officially designated for preservation through the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code that are located on the development site or on adjacent property that have potential to be impacted by any on-site or off-site construction activity associated with the proposed development. The tree preservation plan sheets must identify such trees by common name; category of designation; trunk location; trunk diameter at 4.5 feet; dripline (see [Plate 2-12](#)); estimated critical root zone (see [Plate 2-12](#)); and the location of any easement established for the tree’s protection and access.
1. All trees designated for preservation through the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code must be protected during construction. No construction activities is allowed within the critical root zones of these trees except as may be allowed by Article 5 of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code. Tree preservation narratives must address how these trees will be protected throughout all phases of construction.

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- F. Tree Conservation Plans must identify “Champion or Co-champion” trees located on the development site or on adjacent property that have been recorded on the Fairfax County, Virginia State or [National Big Tree Registry](#). The tree preservation plan sheets must identify such trees by common name; trunk location; trunk diameter at a height of 4.5 feet; dripline, or estimated critical root zone. Efforts should be made to preserve these trees. Consideration should be given to preserving such trees for official designation as a “Heritage” or “Specimen” tree through the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) of the Code. Contact [Urban Forest Management](#) for information concerning the location of these trees.
- G. Information provided to satisfy the requirements of this section should be prepared by an [International Society of Arboriculture](#) Certified Arborist or by a Registered Consulting Arborist as designated by the [American Society of Consulting Arborists](#), and must be overlaid on and match all information required on existing vegetation maps as required by [§ 12-0306](#). Tree Conservation Plans that the Director determines not to conform with the standards of [§ 12-0308 et seq.](#) are subject to disapproval. (Note: see also [§ 12-0308.5B](#) for Certified Arborists or Registered Consulting Arborists to prepare arboricultural documentation for deviations to the Tree Preservation Target.)

12-0308 Tree Preservation Target

12-0308.1 Tree Preservation Target Definition. The percentage of the development site covered by all tree canopy (regardless of health or condition) at the time of plan submission must equate to the minimum portion of the total 10-year Tree Canopy requirement of the [Chapter 122](#) of the Code that should be met by means of tree preservation. This minimum portion must be identified in Tree Conservation Plans as the “Tree Preservation Target.”

- A. In order to meet or exceed the site’s Tree Preservation Target level, all effort must be made to design and construct development in a manner that is consistent with the preservation design standards provided in [§ 12-0202](#).
- B. Tree canopy that the Director determines does not or will not meet the pre- and post-development condition standards for trees and forested areas as provided in [§§ 12-0203](#) and [12-0204](#) will not be included in areas counting towards meeting the Tree Preservation Target.

12-0308.2 Tree Preservation Target Calculations and Statement. The calculations and statements must be provided along with the 10-year Tree Canopy calculations as shown in [Table 12.3](#).

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Table 12.3 Tree Preservation Target Calculations and Statement

A	Pre-development area of existing tree canopy (from Existing Vegetation Map) =	
B	Percentage of gross site area covered by existing tree canopy =	
C	Percentage of 10-year Tree Canopy required for site (see Table 12.4) =	
D	Percentage of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement that should be met through tree preservation =	
E	Proposed percentage of canopy requirement that will be met through tree preservation =	
F	Has the Tree Preservation Target minimum been met?	Provide Yes or No
G	If No for line F, then a request to deviate from the Tree Preservation Target must be provided on the plan that states one or more of the justifications listed in § 12-0308.3 along with a narrative that provides a site-specific explanation of why the Tree Preservation Target cannot be met. Provide sheet number where deviation request is located.	
H	If step G requires a narrative, it must be prepared in accordance with § 12-0308.4 .	
I	Place this information before the 10-year Tree Canopy calculations as per instructions in Table 12.10 .	

12-0308.3 Allowable Deviations to Tree Preservation Target

- A. Deviations in whole or part from the site’s Tree Preservation Target may be requested under the following conditions:
1. Meeting the Tree Preservation Target would preclude the development of uses or densities otherwise allowed by the [Zoning Ordinance](#);
 2. Meeting the Tree Preservation Target would require the preservation of trees that do not meet standards for health and structural condition and other vegetation and risk management requirements of [§ 12-0200 et seq.](#)
 3. Construction activities could be reasonably expected to impact existing trees or forested areas used to meet the Tree Preservation Target to the extent these would not likely survive in a healthy and structurally sound manner for a minimum of 10-years in accordance with the post-development standards for trees and forested areas provided in [§§ 12-0203 and 12-0204](#).

12-0308.4 Tree Preservation Target Deviation Request, Review and Documentation Process.

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- A. Tree Preservation Target Narrative. The following procedure will be used to document requests to deviate from the minimum level of tree preservation identified by the Tree Preservation Target.
1. If, in the opinion of the developer, a site cannot meet the Tree Preservation Target due to one or more of the justifications listed in [§ 12-0308.3A\(1\)](#) through [§ 12-0308.3A\(3\)](#) above, then a written request to deviate from the Tree Preservation Target must be incorporated into the first submission of the plan.
 2. A request to deviate from the Tree Preservation Target must take the form of a letter addressed to the Director that provides a basis for the deviation, describes how the deviation is the minimum necessary to afford relief, and describes how the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements could otherwise be met by means of tree planting, or by means of off-site tree canopy banking or contribution to the tree fund as provided in [§ 12-0312](#).
- B. Review of Request to Deviate from the Tree Preservation Target. If after reviewing the request, the Director determines the basis for the deviation to be premised on necessary site engineering and vegetation management practices and the proposed clearing and grading is the minimum necessary to provide for the proposed use or development of the site, then the Director will deem the tree preservation level identified in the developer's deviation request to satisfy the minimal portion of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements that will be met through tree preservation. The balance of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements must then be met through the planting of trees.
1. If the Director determines that the proposed clearing and grading exceeds the minimum area necessary to provide for the proposed use or development of the site, both the plan and the request for deviation will be disapproved.
 2. If the Director determines that an alternative site layout or alternative engineering practices could result in increased levels of tree preservation, then the Director may forward such alternatives to the developer in the form of plan review comments.
 3. Alternative design recommendations must be based upon accepted land development and vegetation management practices and take into account the relationship between the cost of conservation and the benefits of the trees to be preserved as described in [ANSI A300 \(Part 5\) 2005 Management: Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance Standard Practices, Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site Planning, Site](#)

[Development, and Construction, Annex A, A1.5, Cost Benefits Analysis](#)
(or the current version of this standard).

- 12-0308.5 Developer Options. The developer must consider the alternative design recommendations and redesign the plan accordingly, or the developer may elect to satisfy the unmet portion of the preservation threshold through on-site tree planting or through the off-site planting mechanisms identified in [§ 12-0312](#).
- A. If the developer rejects the Director’s alternative design, then the developer must provide the Director with a letter of explanation that addresses why the alternative design was rejected. Subsequent resubmissions of site plans, preliminary plats, subdivision plans, grading plans or rough grading plans containing alterations that could substantially alter or impact previous tree preservation efforts will be subject to additional tree conservation and limits of clearing review comments.
- B. Letters of explanation prepared for purposes of satisfying [§ 12-0308.5A](#) above must be prepared and certified by a licensed professional as defined in [Va. Code Ann § 54.1](#). If arboricultural issues are part of the explanation, then the letter must also be signed by an [International Society of Arboriculture](#) Certified Arborist or by a Registered Consulting Arborist as designated by the [American Society of Consulting Arborists](#).
- C. If arboricultural issues are the sole subject of the letter of explanation then certification by a licensed professional as defined in [Va. Code Ann § 54.1](#) is not required. Letters of explanation must be incorporated into the approved site plan, subdivision plan, grading plan, or rough grading plan.

12-0309 Tree Preservation Plan and Narrative

12-0309.1 Except as modified by [§ 12-0303](#), any Tree Conservation Plan that uses tree preservation to satisfy 10-year Tree Canopy requirements of [Chapter 122](#) of the Code; to satisfy erosion and sedimentation control purposes relating to [Chapter 104](#) of the Code, or to satisfy proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions, or variance approvals must provide a tree preservation plan and narrative as part of the Tree Conservation Plan as follows.

12-0309.2 Tree Preservation Plan Submission Requirements

- A. The tree preservation plan must accurately delineate individual trees and forested areas that are proposed for preservation, removal or transplanting and must incorporate tree inventory and condition analysis information required by [§ 12-0307](#), including information for any trees that are dead, potentially

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hazardous or in poor condition and the location of critical root zones of trees 12 inches in diameter and greater and located within 25 feet of the proposed limits of clearing in the undisturbed area and within 10 feet of the proposed limits of clearing in the area to be disturbed.

- B. Tree preservation plans must accurately delineate “Heritage,” “Specimen,” “Memorial,” or “Street” trees in accordance [§ 12-0307.2E](#) and “Champion or Co-champion” from “Big Tree” Registries in accordance with [§ 12-0307.2F](#).
- C. Tree preservation plans must delineate areas of endangered or unique forest communities that are designated for preservation and used to gain additional canopy credits as provided in [§ 12-0310.3B\(1\)\(c\)](#).
- D. Tree preservation, inventory, and condition information must be overlaid on basic site engineering and layout information including the limits of clearing as stated in [§ 12-0304](#).
- E. Tree preservation plans must show the location and type of tree protection devices that are to be provided in accordance with [§ 12-0503.1A](#).
- F. The information provided on the Tree Conservation Plan must match and be consistent with the information on all grading plan and erosion and sedimentation control sheets, and all other plans, such as landscaping plans, provided to satisfy Tree Conservation Plan requirements.

12-0309.3 Tree Preservation Narrative Submission Requirements

- A. A tree preservation narrative must accompany tree preservation plan elements to describe specific treatments, practices, specifications, standards and plans that will be used to preserve and manage trees and forested areas as follows.
- B. The tree preservation narrative must provide information about the timing and removal of any dead or potential high risk trees that may occur within preservation areas.
- C. The tree preservation narrative should address how any human health and safety risks will be eliminated from forested areas as required by [§ 12-0204.2A](#).
- D. The tree preservation narrative must address how invasive plants will be managed in forested areas as may be required by [§ 12-0204.2B](#).
- E. The tree preservation narrative must contain any applications and/or documentation needed to review a proposal to officially designate a tree as a

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“Heritage,” “Specimen,” “Memorial,” or “Street” tree in accordance with [§ 12-0310.3B\(2\)\(a\)](#).

- F. The tree preservation narrative must address how any “Heritage,” “Specimen,” “Memorial,” or “Street” trees that are located on the development site or located off-site on adjacent property adjacent to the development site will be protected throughout all phases of construction as required by [§ 12-0307.2E\(1\)](#).
- G. The tree preservation narrative must describe how any arboricultural practices or treatments required by proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions or variance approvals will be timed and implemented.
- H. The tree preservation narrative must contain a transplanting plan describing how trees and other plant material will be selected, transported, treated, and stored if transplanting efforts are required by proffers or development conditions.
- I. The tree preservation narrative must provide information, specifications, and graphical details relating to the timing, installation and maintenance of tree protection fencing and signage as provided in [§ 12-0503](#) *et. seq.*
- J. The tree preservation narrative must provide information about any work or activity that is proposed within areas to be preserved and must address how preservation areas will be managed, protected, and if necessary restored in accordance with [§ 12-0504](#).
- K. The tree preservation narrative must contain additional tree inventory, tree condition, tree valuation, and tree bonding information if required by proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions or variance approvals.

12-0309.4 Other information must be furnished as deemed necessary by the Director to conduct a thorough review of the tree preservation requirements of this section.

12-0310 10-year Tree Canopy Requirements

12-0310.1 [Chapter 122](#) of the Code requires that all land development requiring the submission of a site plan, preliminary subdivision plat, subdivision construction plan, conservation plan, grading plan, or rough grading plan must provide for the conservation of trees on the site such that, after 10 years, minimum tree canopy must be provided as follows.

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Table 12.4 10-year Tree Canopy Requirements

Use or Zoning District	Percentage of site to be covered by tree canopy in 10 years
Dedicated school, athletic field, non-wooded active recreation area	10%
Commercial; Industrial; PDC; R-20; R-30; PDH-20; PDH-30; PDH-40; PRM; R-MHP; medium and high-density areas of a PRC District and a PTC District	10%
R-12; R-16; PDH-12; PDH-16	15%
R-5; R-8; PDH-5; PDH-8	20%
R-3; R-4; PDH-3; PDH-4	25%
R-A; R-P; R-C; R-E; R-1; R-2; PDH-1; PDH-2; and low-density areas of a PRC District	30%
<p>Note: In Commercial Revitalization Districts the above requirements apply to the extent feasible for expansion or enlargement of existing developments and must be applicable for redevelopments and new developments. Expansion, enlargement and new development must be as defined by the Zoning Ordinance.</p>	

- A. For purposes of administering the above requirement, [Chapter 122](#) of the Code provides that land development does not include: construction of additions to existing residential structures; construction of residential accessory structures; demolition of existing residential structures; reconstruction of residential structures on existing foundations; construction associated with minor site plans; construction of trails, sidewalks, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and other public improvements of a linear nature not included as part of a larger common plan of development; and, other land disturbing activities that present a minor threat to existing tree resources as determined by the Director.

12-0310.2 The tree canopy requirement may be met through the preservation or planting of trees; however, when existing trees meet standards of suitability and when it is feasible to preserve those trees within the framework of permissible uses, densities, design standards, and construction practices, all efforts must first be made to design and construct the development site in a manner that preserves existing trees before tree planting is allowed to meet any portion of the tree canopy requirement.

12-0310.3 Preserving Existing Trees and Forested Areas for 10-year Tree Canopy Credits

- A. Tree canopy credit will be given to areas comprised of self-supporting and woody plant material exceeding five feet in height at time of plan submission, if the vegetation also meets standards for health, condition, and suitability as defined in [§ 12-0200 et seq.](#), and if the vegetation meets standards established to manage proper levels of biodiversity and the spread of invasive plants, pests and diseases as provided in [§ 12-0310.3C](#) and [§ 12-0310.4C](#).

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1. Tree canopy credit is given only to trees with main trunks located on the site being developed. However, trees with trunks that are bisected by the development site's outer property line may contribute canopy credits if it is reasonable to assume that these jointly owned trees will survive for a minimum of 10 years after plan approval. In these cases, jointly owned trees may only contribute canopy credit for that portion of their canopies that directly overhang the development site.
 2. Portions of tree canopy overhanging the development site that is attached to off-site trees do not contribute 10-year Tree Canopy credits. Where shared property lines bisect dense forest stands and it is not practical or feasible to determine which property the canopy originates from, the extent of on-site canopy areas may be defined by the shared property line.
- B. Additional Canopy Credits for Tree Preservation. The canopy area of trees and forested areas that meet the Tree Condition Standards, Forested Area Condition Standards, and Area Size and Dimension Standards of [§ 12-0200](#) *et seq.* may be calculated using a canopy credit multiplier of 1.25 except as provided in [§ 12-0310.3C](#) below.
1. An additional canopy credit with a multiplier of 1.5 will be granted in order to encourage the preservation of forest or woodland communities identified in [Table 12.5](#).
 - a. Areas of existing vegetation proposed to provide 10-year Tree Canopy credits must be shaded and labeled on plans to indicate the amount of canopy coverage being claimed. If the use of additional tree canopy credits is proposed, then the plan must identify the amount of canopy that has been credited to that area, along with the specific canopy multiplier that is being applied. Supporting calculations and canopy credit breakdowns must be provided as required by [§ 12-0311](#).

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Table 12.5 Endangered or Unique Forest Communities

Common Name	USNVCS ID	Translated name	Distribution	Status
Northern hardpan basic oak - hickory forest	CEGL006216	white oak - pignut hickory - white ash / Eastern redbud / rock muhly - bottlebrush grass forest	Found in the Culpeper Basin and western Piedmont foothills of Virginia and Maryland. Known distribution of this community is confined to a six-county area in Northern Virginia and adjacent Maryland	Rounded Global Status: G3 – Vulnerable
fall-line terrace gravel magnolia bog	CEGL006219	blackgum - sweetbay - (pitch pine) / swamp azalea - poison-sumac / bamboo vine woodland	This community is known from a limited area at and just east of the fall line in Fairfax County and others areas of the Mid-Atlantic fall-line zone	Rounded Global Status: G1 - Critically Imperiled
Atlantic upland depression willow oak swamp forest	CEGL007403	willow oak / (greenish-white sedge, greater bladder sedge, cypress swamp sedge) / tree moss forest	Upland depression swamps found in the Piedmont of the Carolinas, Virginia and the Potomac Valley region of Maryland	Rounded Global Status: G2 - Imperiled
ash - swamp blackgum freshwater tidal swamp	CEGL006287	pumpkin ash - swamp blackgum - (green ash) / common winterberry / Halberd-leaf tearthumb forest	This open- to closed-canopy swamp forest occurs on fresh tidal rivers at the upper reaches of tidal influence (and somewhat beyond in some cases) and generally receives diurnal or irregular tidal flooding.	Rounded Global Status: G3 – Vulnerable

*All [USNVCS](#) names, ID number, distribution and status data are taken or adopted from: [NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life](#)

- b. Additional canopy credits of 1.5 may be granted for the preservation of forest or woodland communities that do not appear in [Table 12.5](#) if the Director determines such communities to provide valuable environmental, ecological and wildlife conservation benefits.
- c. For purposes of reviewing proposals to preserve unique or endangered forest communities, these areas must be delineated and identified on tree preservation plans in accordance with [§ 12-0309.2C](#) using community descriptions, names, and nomenclature of the [Federal National Vegetation Classification System \(FGDCSTD005\)](#) or current version of this standard.

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2. Canopy multipliers ranging between 1.5 to 3.0 may be used when preserving trees intended for designation by the [Board](#) as “Heritage,” “Memorial,” “Specimen,” or “Street” trees in accordance with the provisions of [Chapter 120](#) (Heritage, Specimen, Memorial and Street Tree Ordinance) of the Code. See [Table 12.6](#) below for specific multipliers. The proposed canopy area multiplier and accurate canopy area must be identified for these trees within the 10-year Tree Canopy calculations and tree preservation narrative.

Category	Multiplier Range	Notes
Heritage	2 to 3	Upper range of multipliers only available for trees protected by a conservation easement.
Specimen	2 to 3	
Memorial	1.5 to 2.5	
Street	1.5 to 2	

- a. The preservation of trees intended for designation as Heritage, Specimen, Memorial, and Street trees must be implemented to the full satisfaction of the Director. The submission of arboricultural treatments and a tree management plan, the establishment of a conservation easement or other actions that are necessary to ensure the long-term preservation of the trees may be required. An application requesting official designation in one of the four categories must be included in the tree preservation narrative (see [§ 12-0309.3](#)).
- C. Reduced Canopy Credit. Individual trees and forested areas that are comprised of species or communities that are especially vulnerable to pest or disease receive reduced 10-year Tree Canopy credits as follows.
1. Areas designated for protection by [Chapter 118](#) of the Code, and § 2-900 (Floodplain Regulations) of the [Zoning Ordinance](#), areas of tree canopy located within a RPA and 100-year floodplain must be calculated using a reduced canopy credit multiplier of 1.0.
 - a. The Director may allow the application of canopy credit multipliers higher than 1.0 for the preservation of unique or threatened forest communities (see [§ 12-0310.3B\(1\)](#)) that fall within an RPA or 100-year floodplain.
- D. No Canopy Credit. 10-year Tree Canopy credit will not be granted for the canopy areas that exhibit serious invasive behavior or are especially vulnerable to pest or disease as follows.

1. [Table 12.7](#) identifies invasive species that may not be used to meet the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement.

Table 12.7 Invasive Species	
Species name	Common name
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree of heaven
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	autumn olive
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	princess tree
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian olive
<i>Morus alba</i>	white mulberry
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm
<i>Pyrus calleryana, all cultivars</i>	Callery pear
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	sawtooth oak
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	paper mulberry

2. Conditional Canopy Credits. [Table 12.8](#) identifies species that are subject to health-threatening levels of diseases and pests or are prone to developing structural problems and invasive behavior. If preserved, canopy areas comprised of these species may not be used to meet the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement. However, certain species may be used to meet 10-year Tree Canopy requirements if the Director determines that preservation efforts are in alignment with criteria identified in the “Conditions” column of [Table 12.8](#).

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Table 12.8 Species that Cause Problems after Preservation

Species name	Common Name	Problem	Canopy Credit	Conditions
<i>Acer negundo</i>	box elder	Weak wood. Grows quickly. Rots quickly. Short lived.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	silver maple	Weak wood. Branch and scaffold failure due to poor branch attachment.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree of heaven	High failure rate when large. Branch and trunk failure due to internal decay. Highly invasive.	None	
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	mimosa	Weak wooded. Susceptible to disease. Short life span.	None	
<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	Southern catalpa	Brittle wood. Trunk failure due to internal decay.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Northern catalpa	Brittle wood. Trunk failure due to internal decay.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Morus alba</i>	white mulberry	Invasive.	None	
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	princess tree	Weak wood, prolific seeds, invasive.	None	
<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	Virginia pine	Susceptible to wind-throw and structural instability when existing stands are fragmented or exposed by clearing operations.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure and does not pose a high-risk condition
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern cottonwood	Weak wood and brittle branches.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Populus nigra 'Italica'</i>	Lombardy poplar	Weak wood. Susceptible to canker disease.	None	
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	All planted varieties, cultivars and naturally seeded or sprouted variants of Callery pear.	Highly invasive. Poor branch attachment. Highly susceptible to storm damage. Overuse in Fairfax County.	None	

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Table 12.8 Species that Cause Problems after Preservation (Cont'd)

Species Name	Common Name	Problem	Canopy Credit	Conditions
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust	Branch failure due to decay and poor branch attachment.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	weeping willow	Objectionable root system. Weak wood.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure
<i>Ulmus pumilia</i>	Siberian elm	Branch failure due to decay and poor branch attachment.	Full if prerequisite conditions are met	Full credit if preserved in natural settings away from buildings and infrastructure

12-0310.4 Planting Trees for 10-year Tree Canopy Credit

- A. Consideration Items. The following elements should be considered when selecting tree species planted to meet 10-year Tree Canopy requirements and when selecting tree species planted to meet the Landscaping and Screening Requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#).
1. Ultimate Tree Size. The mature height and spread of trees must be considered to ensure that they will not interfere with proposed structures and overhead or underground utilities. Root development must be considered to ensure that tree placement will not cause interference with walls, walks, drives, patios, and other paved surfaces or affect water and sewer lines, septic systems, underground drainage systems, or dam embankments.
 2. Site Conditions. The existing and proposed use(s) and condition(s) of the developed area, as well as the existing and future availability of light and water, must be considered before plant selection. Trees which exhibit a tolerance to air pollution should be selected if a large amount of air pollution will be present. Trees which are suitable for buffering or screening should be selected where noise or objectionable views are anticipated problems. Generally, evergreens provide better buffering and screening than deciduous trees. Trees should be selected which can tolerate de-icing salts if there is a chance these will be used in close proximity.
 3. Life Span. Preference should be given to trees with long life spans.

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4. Resistance to Disease and Insects. Trees that are known to be resistant to attacks by disease or insects should be given preference over those known to be susceptible.
 5. Tree Benefits. In order to encourage the establishment of tree canopy that provides enhanced levels of environmental, ecological and social-economic benefits, additional 10-year Tree Canopy credits will be provided as defined by [§ 12-0310.4B](#) below.
- B. Opportunities for Additional 10-year Tree Canopy Credits. This section identifies opportunities to receive additional tree canopy credits in exchange for the planting of trees in a manner that will provide specific environmental and ecological benefits, or for the use of species that are native to Fairfax County, or for the use of species that are resistant to diseases, pests, decay and the negative impacts imposed by harsh environmental conditions. Individual trees planted for these purposes will not receive credit under more than one category of additional canopy credits identified below. Furthermore, additional tree canopy credit may not be applied to trees proposed to satisfy interior parking lot landscaping, peripheral parking lot landscaping and/or transitional screening requirements, if the Director determines that the application of additional 10-year Tree Canopy credits is likely to compromise the ability of the proposed design to fulfill the intent and purpose of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#). The appropriate canopy area multiplier and discrete area of canopy associated with trees planted for these purposes must be clearly identified within the landscape plan plant schedule and 10-year Tree Canopy calculations.
1. Air Quality. A multiplier of 1.5 may be applied to the normal 10-year Tree Canopy area listed in [Table 12.17](#) for trees that the Director determines to provide air quality benefits.
 - a. The species listed in the “Air Quality” column of [Table 12.17](#) may receive the additional canopy credits identified in [§ 12-0310.4B\(1\)](#) above when planted in the nursery stock sizes listed in [Table 12.17](#) and located in common open space protected in perpetuity by a deed restriction, such as a conservation easement. Other species not listed in the “Air Quality” column of [Table 12.17](#) may be approved if they are determined by the Director to emit lower levels of reactive volatile organic compounds.
 - b. A multiplier of 1.5 may be applied to the species listed in the “Air Quality” column of [Table 12.17](#) if they are proposed to be planted in a manner that provides significant levels of shade to parking lot surfaces and associated motorized vehicles, and located in planting beds

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intentionally designed to facilitate root development. These trees may also be used to meet Interior Parking Lot Landscaping requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#) as further provided in [§ 12-0314](#). Other species not listed in the “Air Quality” column of [Table 12.17](#) may be approved if they are determined by the Director to emit low or medium levels of reactive volatile organic compounds.

2. Energy Conservation. A multiplier of 1.5 times the 10-year Tree Canopy credit listed in [Table 12.17](#) may be applied to the canopy area of trees planted to achieve reductions in energy use in buildings.
 - a. Selecting Trees for Energy Conservation. [Table 12.17](#) identifies species that may receive credits for energy conservation planting. These species are well suited for this purpose due to their ultimate size, form, canopy density and other criteria. When choosing a planting location for energy conservation, a tree’s form and ultimate size should be considered to minimize maintenance problems and assure healthy, long-term growth and survival. Consult [Table 12.17](#) to determine tree sizes and other species-specific constraints. For example, if the planting area is located 20 feet from a building, a Category III tree would be appropriate. If the planting distance from the building is 30 feet or greater, a Category IV tree should be considered (see [Plate 4-12](#)).
 - b. Locating Trees for Energy Conservation Credits. In Fairfax County, maximum reductions in utility energy usage results when deciduous trees shade the western, southwestern, and northwestern walls and windows of buildings. Trees planted for energy conservation canopy credits must be located 20 to 35 feet from the edge of a building and substantially shade its western, southwestern, or northwestern exposure from 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. from May through September (see [Plate 4-12](#)).
 - c. Energy Conservation Landscape Plan Submission Requirements. The landscape plan must clearly label trees which are used for the additional energy conservation canopy credits. The 10-year Tree Canopy calculations must identify the specific amount of canopy credits taken for energy conservation plantings.
3. Water Quality. A multiplier of 1.25 times the 10-year Tree Canopy credit listed in [Table 12.17](#) may be counted toward meeting the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement for trees planted to improve stormwater runoff quality as provided in [§ 6-1300](#) (Retention, Detention, and Best Management Practices Facilities) and further described in: [§ 6-1307](#) (Bioretention Filters and Basins); [§ 6-1308](#) (Vegetated Swales); and, [§ 6-1310](#) (Reforestation).

Trees planted in connection with Best Management Practices may also apply a multiplier of 1.25.

4. **Wildlife Benefits.** A multiplier of 1.5 times the 10-year Tree Canopy credit listed in [Table 12.17](#) may be used on the canopy area of native tree species identified in the “Wildlife” column of [Table 12.17](#) planted to provide food, nesting, habitat, and migration opportunities for wildlife that are planted in nursery stock sizes. These canopy credits may also apply to cultivars of native tree species if the Director determines that such a cultivar is capable of providing the same type and extent of wildlife benefit as the species it is derived from.
 5. **Native Trees.** A multiplier of 1.5 times the 10-year Tree Canopy credit listed in [Table 12.17](#) may be applied to the canopy area of native tree species identified in the “Native” column of [Table 12.17](#) that will be planted in nursery stock sizes. For purposes of administering this Chapter, a “native tree species” is defined as a tree species that the Director determines to be indigenous to any of the forest or woodland communities that were likely present in Fairfax County immediately before European settlement of Virginia.
 6. **Use of Improved Cultivars and Varieties.** A multiplier of 1.25 times the 10-year Tree Canopy credit listed in [Table 12.17](#) may be applied to the canopy area of cultivars or varieties that the Director determines to develop desirable growth and structural patterns; resist decay organisms and the development of cavities; show high levels of resistance to disease or insect infestations or exhibit high survival rates in harsh urban environments. These trees must be planted in nursery stock sizes in order to receive additional credits. The suitability of trees to receive these credits will be determined based on the Director’s evaluation of relevant published peer-review research and the cultivar or variety’s ability to withstand site-specific environmental conditions. (See also the “Improved Cultivar/Variety” column in [Table 12.17](#))
- C. **Species that Can Cause Problems after Planting.** Ten-year Tree Canopy credits will either not be granted, will be reduced or will be granted conditionally for planting tree species that the Director has determined to be problematic due to overabundance in the countywide tree population; invasive behavior; a special susceptibility to pests or disease; a predisposition to health and structural problems; a predisposition to causing damages to infrastructure; or the potential to cause negative impacts to the environment. [Table 12.9](#) identifies these problematic species, the canopy credit multiplier (if any) that may be applied, and the condition(s) that must be met for using the canopy credit multiplier.

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D. Use of Seedlings, Woody Shrubs and Woody Seed Mix

1. Tree seedlings and shrubs may be used to meet tree canopy requirements in common open space and on individual lots within the R-2, R-1, R-C, and R-E zoning districts. The ground surface area of tree seedling planting areas must equate to the 10-year Tree Canopy credit area.
 - a. Native shrubs may be used to supplement tree seedlings as long as these treatments do not exceed 33 percent of the overall planting area. The number of a single species may not exceed 10 percent of the overall number of seedlings planted to meet these provisions. Plant material used to satisfy these requirements may not contain any of the problematic trees species list in [Table 12.9](#) unless approved by the Director.
 - b. All plant materials used to satisfy these requirements must be comprised of native species and must be planted in densities that equate to 400 plants per acre.

Table 12.9 Species that Cause Problems after Planting

<i>Species</i>	Common Name	Problem	Canopy Credit Multiplier	Conditional Credit
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple	Invasive seedlings.	None	
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	silver maple	Brittle wood. Branch and twig failure. Invasive root system. Overuse in Fairfax County.	None	
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	Susceptibility to stress in urban environments.	Conditional 1.0	Full credit if planted away from high heat environments such as parking lots.
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	white birch	Susceptible to bore insects. Short life span.	None	
<i>Cornus florida</i>	flowering dogwood	Discula anthracnose. (Dogwood Spot Anthracnose).	Conditional 1.0	Full credit if varieties resistant to Discula anthracnose are used.
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	leyland cypress	Susceptible to disease. Overuse in Fairfax County.	0.5	Not conditional, but reduced credits
<i>Elaeagnus umbellate</i>	autumn olive	Highly invasive.	None	
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian olive	Invasive.	None	
<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	ash species	Susceptibility to emerald ash borer.	None	
<i>Ginkgo biloba (female only)</i>	ginkgo	Female plant produces fruits with objectionable odor.	Conditional 1.0	Full credit if male plant is used.

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Table 12.9 Species that Cause Problems after Planting (Cont'd)

<i>Species</i>	Common Name	Problem	Canopy Credit Multiplier	Conditional Credit
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	sweetgum	Invasive root system. High VOC emissions.	Conditional 0.5	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive .25X if planted immediately adjacent to an existing forest/woodland community that contains this species as a major constituent
<i>Morus alba</i>	white mulberry all cultivars	Invasive.	None	
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i> (female only)	amur corktree	Prolific, invasive seeds.	Conditional 1.0	May receive full credit if male plant is used.
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	white pine	Brittle wood. Branch and twig failure. Susceptibility to disease and environmental stress. Overuse in Fairfax County.	0.5	Not conditional, but reduced credits
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar	Invasive root system	None	
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern cottonwood	Brittle wood. Branch and twig failure. Invasive root system.	Conditional 1.0	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive full credits if planted immediately adjacent to existing forest/woodland communities that contain this species as a constituent
<i>Populus nigra</i> 'Italica'	Lombardy poplar	Susceptibility to disease. Short life span.	None	
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	all varieties and cultivars of Callery pear.	Poor branch attachment. Highly susceptible to storm damage. Invasive. Overuse in Fairfax County.	None	
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak	Invasive root system. Susceptibility to stress in urban environments with low soil pH.	Conditional 1.0	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive full credit if planted immediately adjacent to existing forest/woodland communities that contain this species as a major constituent.
<i>Salix alba</i>	white willow	Weak wood. Grows quickly. Branch and twig failure.	Conditional 1.0	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive full credit if planted immediately adjacent to existing forest/woodland communities that contain this species as a constituent.

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Table 12.9 Species that Cause Problems after Planting (Cont'd)

<i>Species</i>	Common Name	Problem	Canopy Credit Multiplier	Conditional Credit
<i>Salix nigra</i>	black willow	Weak wood. Grows quickly. Branch and twig failure.	Conditional 1.0	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive full credit if planted immediately adjacent to existing forest/woodland communities that contain this species as a constituent.
<i>Tsuga canadensis/</i>	Canadian hemlock	Susceptible to Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.	0.5	Not conditional, but reduced credits
<i>Tsuga caroliniana/</i>	Carolina hemlock	Susceptible to Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.	0.5	Not conditional, but reduced credits
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American elm	Susceptibility to disease. Root systems can damage nearby infrastructure.	Conditional 1.0	None if planted near buildings or infrastructure. May receive full credit if disease resistant varieties are used and tree is located away from infrastructure

2. Beds for Seedlings, and Shrubs

- a. A continuous mulch bed should be provided for the entire surface area that provides 10-year Tree Canopy credit. Tilling and soil amendments are required to relieve compaction in planting beds and restore soil function in previously compacted soils in accordance with [§ 12-0505.5F\(1\)](#).
- b. The mulch bed should consist of a minimum of 2 inches of organic mulch that must be placed on the topsoil layer at final grade. Mulch should consist of wood chips, bark chips, or shredded bark that has been aged for a minimum of 4 months. Mulch beds must be kept free of any grass, weeds, vines, and any other plant or condition that might hinder the establishment of the tree canopy.

3. Mortality Rates and Replacement Procedures. Planting of tree seedlings, and shrubs must be well established before release of the conservation deposit. The conservation deposit will be held for a minimum of two years after the initial installation of the plantings in accordance with [§ 12-0505.7](#).

E. Standards for Tree Location

1. Tree canopy credit will be given to trees that are preserved or planted on privately owned lots and parcels, common open space, dedicated open space and on public property, if the tree canopy meets specifications and standards of [§ 12-0200](#).

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2. Tree canopy credit will be given to trees planted to meet interior parking lot landscaping, peripheral parking lot landscaping, and transitional screening requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#), if the trees are planted in accordance with specification and standards of this Chapter.
3. Tree canopy credit will not be given to trees preserved or planted on portions of sites that will be dedicated to any purpose or use the Director determines is likely to result in significant levels of tree loss within 10-years of plan approval.
4. Tree canopy credit will not be given to trees preserved or planted on portions of sites where the Director determines that activities, maintenance practices, or environmental conditions associated with the use are not likely to support the long term health, structural integrity, safety, and biological, ecological, or environmental functionality of trees and/or forested areas.
5. Trees planted to provide all or part of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements must be shown on a landscaping plan in accordance with [§ 12-0315](#). These trees must be planted as per [§ 12-0505](#) *et. seq.* with the minimum size planting area provided for each tree according to its projected 10-year Tree Canopy area as found in [Table 12.17](#).
6. The minimum width of any planting area should be 8 feet, measured from the interior of the sides of the restrictive barrier such as curb or pavement. Trees should be located no closer than 4 feet from any restrictive barrier, or as determined appropriate by the Director to facilitate the peripheral parking lot landscaping requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#).
7. Planter Details and Alternative Designs. If trees are shown to be planted in deck planters or other areas of restricted root growing space, a detail must be provided which illustrates the overall size, depth, soil composition, irrigation technique and drainage of the planter or planting space. When minimum planting areas cannot be provided, alternative designs that provide the maximum possible planting area may be allowed as approved by the Director.
8. When the minimum planting soil surface area cannot be provided as described in [§ 12-0310.4E\(5\)](#) and [\(6\)](#) above, the options in [§ 12-0310.4E\(9\)](#) below should be considered in an alternative planting area design:
9. Tree planting spaces proposed in the streetscape and other areas restricted by barriers to root growth should provide a planter open surface area at

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least 6 x 6 feet. Where minimum planting areas cannot be met and planting spaces at least 8 feet wide cannot be provided, rooting zone width a minimum of 8 feet should be provided beneath paved surfaces that provide uncompacted soil within the planting space, with planting sites meeting the following specifications:

- a. A minimum of 6 feet open surface width and 36 square feet open surface area.
 - b. Rooting area beneath paved surfaces a minimum of 8 feet wide, taking into consideration sloped sides as may be needed to support adjacent compacted soils for roadways and pedestrian walkways. Planting space depth should be 4 feet within four feet of the tree on all sides. Soil depth in areas beyond four feet may be shallower or narrower as long as specified minimum soil volumes are met. Paved surfaces over the specified rooting area should not be dependent upon compacted soil for structural support.
 - c. Soil volume for Category III or IV trees (as indicated in [Table 12.17](#)) should be a minimum of 700 cubic feet per tree for single trees. For two trees planted in a contiguous planting area, a total soil volume of at least 1200 cubic feet should be provided. For three trees or more planted in a contiguous area, the soil volume should equal at least 500 cubic feet per tree. A contiguous area is defined as any area with a soil depth of 3-4 feet, within which lateral root growth is unrestricted.
10. Trees planted to satisfy any requirement of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#) should be spaced so that the outer limit of their projected 10-year tree cover area as listed in [Table 12.17](#) does not significantly overlap, or as determined appropriate by the Director. When groups of trees are planted to replicate a natural wooded environment, understory species may be planted closer to overstory species where there is less potential for canopies to conflict. Efforts should be made to locate or space planted trees in a manner which will promote long-term survival.
11. Tree canopy credit may be given to off-site tree canopy as provided in [§ 12-0312](#) (Providing 10-year Tree Canopy through Tree Banking and Tree Fund).

12-0311 10-year Tree Canopy Calculations

- 12-0311.1 The following method must be used to calculate the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements of [Chapter 122](#) (Tree Conservation Ordinance) of the Code.

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- A. Calculate the gross site area in square feet.
- B. Subtract the square feet of land shown to be dedicated for parklands, schools, other public uses and street frontage to determine the adjusted gross site area. Areas of proposed interior streets that will be dedicated to [VDOT](#) may not be subtracted. A note describing the areas subtracted must be provided.
- C. Areas containing the uses listed in [§ 12-0311.1C\(1\)](#) through [§ 12-0311.1C\(6\)](#) may be subtracted from the gross site area; however, once subtracted these areas cannot be counted toward meeting the tree canopy requirement. Calculate the sum of all areas identified in [§ 12-0311.1C\(1\)](#) through [§ 12-0311.1C\(6\)](#) which are clearly shown on the plan. Subtract this sum from the adjusted gross site area and provide a note describing the areas subtracted.
 1. Lakes and retention ponds, based on the normal water surface elevation, and swimming pools.
 2. Lands under active commercial production or management of agricultural, horticultural, or forest crops or active use as pasture lands for grazing animals.
 3. Landfills and quarries.
 4. Major utility distribution easements 25 feet or more in width.
 5. Absorption fields and seepage pits for on-site sewage disposal systems.
 6. Floodplains and wetlands.
- D. Multiply the adjusted gross site area by the percentage of tree canopy area required by the zoning district in [Table 12.4](#).
- E. Calculate the area of tree canopy provided through preservation of existing vegetation. Multiply the area of trees and forested areas to be preserved by any applicable canopy area multiplier as provided in [§ 12-0310.3B](#).
- F. Calculate the area provided by proposed landscape trees by obtaining the 10-year Tree Canopy credit for each tree by using [Table 12.17](#).
- G. Calculate the additional 10-year Tree Canopy credits (if any) for planting trees for air quality, energy conservation, water quality, etc. as described in [§ 12-0310.4B](#).

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- H. Calculate the additional 10-year Tree Canopy credits (if any) for planting seedlings and woody shrubs.
- I. Total all the credits provided by planted trees.
- J. Add the 10-year Tree Canopy credits (existing vegetation plus planted trees) to determine the total proposed tree canopy credit. The total proposed 10-year Tree Canopy credit must meet or exceed the percentage of 10-year Tree Canopy area required as provided in [§ 12-0310.1](#).
 - 1. [Table 12.10](#) is provided as a template to facilitate calculating 10-year Tree Canopy requirements and presenting the calculations in Tree Conservation Plans.

Table 12.10 10-year Tree Canopy Calculation Worksheet			
Step		Totals	Reference
A. Tree Preservation Target and Statement			
A 1	Place the Tree Preservation Target calculations and statement here preceding the 10-year Tree Canopy calculations		see § 12-0308.2 for list of required elements and worksheet
B. Tree Canopy Requirement			
B1	Identify gross site area =		§ 12-0311.1A
B2	Subtract area dedicated to parks, road frontage, and		§ 12-0311.1B
B3	Subtract area of exemptions =		§ 12-0311.1C(1) through § 12-0311.1C(6)
B4	Adjusted gross site area (B1 – B2) =		
B5	Identify site’s zoning and/or use		
B6	Percentage of 10-year Tree Canopy required =		§ 12-0310.1 and Table 12.4
B7	Area of 10-year Tree Canopy required (B4 x B6) =		
B8	Modification of 10-year Tree Canopy requirements requested?		Yes or No
B9	If B8 is yes, then list plan sheet where modification request is located		Sheet number
C. Tree Preservation			
C1	Tree Preservation Target Area =		
C2	Total canopy area meeting standards of § 12-0200 =		
C3	C2 x 1.25 =		§ 12-0310.3B
C4	Total canopy area provided by unique or valuable forest or woodland communities =		
C5	C4 x 1.5 =		§ 12-0310.3B(1)
C6	Total of canopy area provided by “Heritage,” “Memorial,” “Specimen,” or “Street” trees =		
C7	C6 x 1.5 to 3.0 =		§ 12-0310.3B(2)

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Table 12.10 10-year Tree Canopy Calculation Worksheet (Cont'd)

C. Tree Preservation (Cont'd)			
C8	Canopy area of trees within Resource Protection Areas and 100-year floodplains =		
C9	C8 x 1.0 =		§ 12-0310.3C(1)
C10	Total of C3, C5, C7 and C9 =		If area of C10 is less than B7 then remainder of requirement must be met through tree planting - go to D
D. Tree Planting			
D1	Area of canopy to be met through tree planting (B7-C10) =		
D2	Area of canopy planted for air quality benefits =		
D3	x 1.5 =		§ 12-0310.4B(1)
D4	Area of canopy planted for energy conservation =		
D5	x 1.5 =		§ 12-0310.4B(2)
D6	Area of canopy planted for water quality benefits =		
D7	x 1.25 =		§ 12-0310.4B(3)
D8	Area of canopy planted for wildlife benefits =		
D9	x 1.5 =		§ 12-0310.4B(4)
D10	Area of canopy provided by native trees =		
D11	x 1.5 =		§ 12-0310.4B(5)
D12	Area of canopy provided by improved cultivars and varieties =		
D13	x 1.25 =		§ 12-0310.4B(6)
D14	Area of canopy provided through tree seedlings =		
	x 1.0 =		§ 12-0310.4D(1)
D15	Area of canopy provided through native shrubs =		
	x 1.0 =		§ 12-0310.4D(1)
D16	Percentage of D14 represented by D15=		Must not exceed 33% of D14
D17	Total of canopy area provided through tree planting =		
D18	Is an off-site planting relief requested?		Yes or No
D19	Tree Bank or Tree Fund?		§ 12-0312
D20	Canopy area requested to be provided through off-site banking or tree fund		
D21	Amount to be deposited into the Tree Preservation and Planting Fund		
E. Total of 10-year Tree Canopy Provided			
E1	Total of canopy area provided through tree preservation (C10) =		
E2	Total of canopy area provided through tree planting (D17) =		
E3	Total of canopy area provided through off-site mechanism (D19) =		
E4	Total of 10-year Tree Canopy provided = (E1+E2+E3)		Total of E1 through E3. Area should meet or exceed area required by B7

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- 12-0311.2 For subdivision plans showing only the construction of public improvements, 10-year Tree Canopy requirements must be calculated based on an estimate of the clearing associated with the final development of the lots. A schematic depicting the estimated final clearing must be shown on the plan. The 10-year Tree Canopy calculations for these types of projects must also project if the Tree Preservation Target requirements of [§ 12-0308](#) will be met.
- 12-0311.3 Public Improvement and Linear Projects. For plans that only address the public improvements associated with a site or subdivision plan, the requirements for 10-year Tree Canopy will be deferred until the preparation of the associated site or subdivision plan. Plans for these types of projects must contain the following note: “10-year Tree Canopy Requirements for this project will be provided with each associated site or subdivision plan, as applicable.” This provision does not exclude any such plan from having to meet all other requirements of [§ 12-0000](#) *et seq.* (See [§ 12-0303](#) for plan submission requirements for standalone public improvement and linear plans not linked to another site or subdivision plan.)
- 12-0311.4 Sections or Phases. When a development is divided into phases or sections, each phase or section will be treated separately for 10-year Tree Canopy requirements.
- A. In developments that are divided into phases or sections which provide conservation or scenic easements or dedicated open space, tree canopy provided in those areas may be used toward meeting the 10-year Tree Canopy requirement for the entire development. The remaining 10-year Tree Canopy requirement must be met in the individual phases or sections of the development, and cannot be used to meet the requirement for more than one section. In these cases, the calculations showing breakdown of where tree canopy will be provided in the easements or open space and each section or phase must be shown on each plan submitted within the development.
- B. The following must be provided on each Tree Conservation Plan for developments which are divided into sections and utilize the provisions of [§ 12-0311.4A](#): a graphic representation of the 10-year Tree Canopy provided for each section; 10-year Tree Canopy provided for completed sections; 10-year Tree Canopy that will be provided for the section under review; and 10-year Tree Canopy anticipated for each future section. At no time may the cumulative 10-year Tree Canopy provided be less than the 10-year Tree Canopy required by [§ 12-0311](#) for the entire development.
- 12-0311.5 For all plans where 10-year Tree Canopy is required (see [§ 12-0310.1](#)), a modification of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements must be requested in a letter to the Director.

12-0312 Providing 10-year Tree Canopy through Tree Banking and Tree Fund

- 12-0312.1 Criteria for use. Transfer of on-site 10-year Tree Canopy requirements through off-site tree banking or through pro rata payment into the Tree Preservation and Planting Fund is allowed when the Director determines that one or more of the following criteria apply.
- A. The strict application of the tree canopy requirements would cause irresolvable conflicts with other site development requirements, design standards, or comprehensive planning goals.
 - B. Sites or portions of sites lack sufficient space for future tree growth;
 - C. Planting spaces will not provide adequate space for healthy root development;
 - D. Trees would cause unavoidable conflicts with underground or overhead utilities and;
 - E. Trees are likely to cause damage to public infrastructure.
 - F. Use of off-site tree banking or contribution to the Tree Preservation and Planting Fund is a prerequisite for modifying the 10-year Tree Canopy percentage requirement as required by the provisions of [§ 12-0313.4C](#).
- 12-0312.2 Tree Banking. For any of the criteria listed in [§ 12-0312.1](#) above the Director may allow an off-site tree canopy bank established by means of tree preservation, reforestation or afforestation to meet on-site canopy requirements as follows.
- A. All off-site tree banking must provide canopy that is protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement, deed restriction, or a similar protective mechanism acceptable to the Director.
 - B. Existing tree canopy preserved for off-site tree banking may not occur on property that is already protected by means of other conservation ordinances, regulations, land trust agreements, proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions and variances. However, off-site tree canopy may be provided on property already protected by the means listed above if the canopy is newly-established through a reforestation or afforestation effort.
 - C. The Director will require the submission and approval of a five-year tree canopy establishment plan and the collection of funds sufficient to ensure the execution of maintenance and management obligations of such plans.

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D. All tree banking must be located within Fairfax County.

- 12-0312.3 Tree Preservation and Planting Fund. For any of the criteria listed in [§ 12-0312.1](#) above, the Director may allow developers to contribute a pro-rated fee into the County's Tree Preservation and Planting Fund. The County may use this fund directly to preserve or plant trees on public property or may elect to disburse these funds to community-based organizations exempt from taxation under § 501 (c) (3) of the [Internal Revenue Code](#) with tree planting or community beautification missions for the purpose of implementing tree planting projects or programs that benefit the community at large.
- A. Fees collected for these purposes will be based on the cost to establish 10-year Tree Canopy cover using 2-inch caliper nursery stock tree.
- B. Pro-rata Tree Canopy Cost. The cost to establish 200 square feet of 10-year Tree Canopy using 2-inch caliper landscape tree must be set at the unit cost for a 1.5-2.0-inch caliper deciduous tree as stated in the current Land Development Services' Comprehensive Unit Price Schedule.

12-0313 Modifications to 10-year Tree Canopy Requirements

- 12-0313.1 The Director may approve a reduction of 10-year Tree Canopy requirements where development is proposed on property previously used for agriculture or other permitted uses of a similar nature that suppressed the development of trees and lacks significant levels of tree canopy at time of plan submission (i.e., 0 to 5 percent); or, where existing tree canopy does not meet pre-development standards listed in [§ 12-0200](#) *et seq.*
- 12-0313.2 The Director may approve a modification of 10-year Tree Canopy requirements where strict application of the requirements would reduce the usable area of a lot due to lot configuration or size to a point that would preclude a reasonable use of the lot or would otherwise cause an unreasonable or unnecessary hardship to the developer.
- 12-0313.3 The Director may approve a modification of the 10-year Tree Canopy requirements for additions to or modifications of existing structures or uses to the minimum extent necessary so that the requirement would not result in the existing structure or use being unable to meet some other requirement of the Code or the Public Facilities Manual.
- 12-0313.4 The 10-year Tree Canopy requirements may be reduced for the scenarios listed in [§ 12-0313.1](#) through [§ 12-0313.3](#) if it is determined by the Director that the proposed design first meets the criteria listed in [§§ 12-0313.4A](#) through [.4C](#) below.

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- A. The site has been designed to maximize the preservation of existing trees. Tree preservation efforts should be realistic and reasonably expected to conform to the post-development standards for trees and forested areas provided in [§§ 12-0203](#) and [12-0204](#).
- B. The site has been designed to maximize opportunities to gain additional 10-year Tree Canopy credits for planting trees that provide the environmental and ecological functionality identified in [§ 12-0310.4B](#).
- C. The application proposes to contribute the pro rata monetary equivalent of 50 percent of the proposed 10-year Tree Canopy reduction to the Tree Preservation and Planting Fund as provided in [§ 12-0312](#). The pro rata monetary equivalent will be premised on the cost unit provided in [§ 12-0312.3B](#).

12-0313.5 The Director may impose conditions to any modification in order to assure that the results of the modification will be in accordance with the purpose and intent of this chapter.

12-0314 Interior Parking Lot Landscaping

12-0314.1 Interior Parking Lot Landscaping must be provided as required by Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#).

12-0314.2 Area to be Counted. The area to be counted as part of the parking lot is defined as the entire surface of the parking lot, loading spaces, drive-thru spaces, the exposed surfaces of parking decks and any paved surface that serves exclusively as access to the parking lot, deck, loading area or drive-thru.

12-0314.3 Area to be Credited

- A. Interior parking lot landscaping credit must be calculated using the area of 10-year Tree Canopy credit provided in [Table 12.17](#).
- B. Peripheral parking lot landscaping, and trees counted toward meeting the transitional screening requirements may not be used toward meeting interior parking lot landscaping requirements.
- C. Only those deciduous trees that provide shade directly to a portion of the area to be counted will be credited toward meeting the required 5 percent interior parking lot landscaping. In order to be counted towards meeting these requirements, a portion of the tree's 10-year Tree Canopy must overlap the parking lot surface.

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- D. A majority of the trees planted or preserved to meet the parking lot landscaping requirement must be located in the interior portion of the parking area and must be reasonably dispersed throughout the parking lot. Alternative designs may be approved by the Director.
- E. If existing forest trees are to be used to meet the parking lot landscaping requirement, only that portion of the preservation area located in the interior of, or directly adjacent to, the area to be counted may be credited.

12-0314.4 Calculations. To determine the area of interior parking lot landscaping required, (a) multiply the total area to be counted (see [§ 12-0314.2](#)) by 5 percent (or by 0.05); (b) calculate the total area of tree canopy to be preserved or planted in locations that will provide direct shade to the surface of the parking lot. The areas credited to landscape trees used to meet the requirements must be based on the area of 10-year Tree Canopy cover provided in [Table 12.17](#). The total area of 10-year Tree Canopy provided in (b) must equal or exceed 5 percent of the parking lot area as required by (a). A table similar to that shown in [Table 12.11](#) must be provided on the landscape sheet.

	ft ²
Area to be Counted =	50,500
Int. Landscaping Required (5%) =	2,525
Total Shade Tree Canopy Provided. (11 trees @ 250 ft ² ea.) =	2,750
 Total Area Required =	 2,525
Total Area Provided =	2,750

12-0314.5 Graphic Requirements. To receive credit for the trees counted toward meeting the interior parking lot landscaping requirement, the “areas to be counted” as calculated under [§ 12-0314.2](#) must be shaded and each tree counted toward meeting the requirement must be marked with a symbol indicating its use as a tree providing shade to the area to be counted. The graphics used to illustrate interior parking lots landscaping do not need to be the same scale as the landscape plan sheet.

12-0314.6 Temporary Parking Lots. When temporary surface parking lots are to be replaced with parking decks in future phases of development, the calculations for interior parking lot landscaping must be completed separately for the surface parking lot and the permanent parking decks to ensure that when the temporary surface parking lot is removed the requirement will continue to be met. If a combination of permanent surface and decked parking is proposed as the final overall design, calculations must be provided to demonstrate that the requirement will continue to be met throughout the phased development.

12-0315 Landscape Plans

- 12-0315.1 All landscape plans must provide the following information and plan elements.
- A. Scale. The landscape plan sheets must be drawn at a scale equal to the site/grading plan sheets.
 - B. Legibility. The landscape plan should be clearly drawn and legible.
 - C. Plant Labels. Each plant to be planted must be accurately located and labeled using the botanical species name or appropriate abbreviation. If symbols are used, they must be easily discernible and a symbol key should be provided on the right-hand side of each landscape plan sheet.
 - D. Tree Canopies. The symbols used to locate trees must be drawn to scale to accurately represent their projected 10-year Tree Canopy area. Trees should be spaced so that their 10-year Tree Canopy areas do not significantly overlap (see [Table 12.17](#) for projected 10-year Tree Canopy areas).
 - E. Plant Schedule. The landscaping plan must include a plant schedule which includes the following (see [Table 12.12](#)).
 - F. Plant name, both botanical and common.
 - G. Quantity of each species used in the plan.

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Table 12.12 Sample Plant Schedule (English units used in this example)

Key	Botanical Name	Common Name	Qty.	Stock Size (height/caliper)	Stock Type	10-yr Tree Canopy ft ²	Tree Canopy Sub-total ft ²	Remarks
IO	Ilex opaca	American holly	12	6 ft. height	cont.	75	900	Sheared
JV	Juniperus virginiana	Eastern redcedar	10	6 ft. height	cont.	45	450	
AS	Acer rubrum	red maple	5	2 in. caliper	B&B	200	1,000	
KP	Koelreuteria paniculata	goldenrain tree	7	2 in. caliper	B&B	150	1,050	specimen
VD	Viburnum dentatum	arrowwood viburnum	10	24 in. height	B&B	0	0	

TOTAL 10-YEAR TREE CANOPY PROVIDED BY PLANTING = 3,400 ft²

NOTE: The remarks column may also be used to note any other characteristics which a plant should exhibit (e.g., sheared, specimen, multi-stem, tree form).

H. Stock size as specified in [Table 12.13](#).

Table 12.13 Plant Material Stock Size Specifications

Type of Plant & Stock	Specify by
Deciduous trees	Caliper
Evergreen trees	Height
Deciduous shrubs	Height
Evergreen shrubs	Height
Seedlings, bare-root	Age

- I. Type of root stock to be planted (e.g., balled and burlapped (B&B), bareroot, container).
- J. The total amount of tree canopy claimed for each species of tree to be planted.
- K. If a symbol is used instead of a plant name label on the plan, include the symbol in the plant schedule.
- L. Plant Diversity. If 30 or more trees are required to be planted on a site, then no more than 10 percent of the total number of trees should be composed of one species and no more than 33 percent of the total number of trees should be composed of one genus. This requirement should not apply to the composition of transitional screening yards required by the provisions of Article 13 of the

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[Zoning Ordinance](#). Sites requiring less than 30 trees and/or portions of sites dedicated as a transitional screening yard should not be comprised of more than 33 percent of one plant species or 66 percent of one genus.

12-0315.2 Transitional Screening Yard Labels

- A. A label(s) must be provided that identifies the location and width of all transitional screening yard(s) required by Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#). Labels must also be provided on all adjacent parcels that identify their use and zoning in order to determine screening requirements for the proposed on-site use.
- B. No existing or proposed sidewalk, trail or easement may exist or be proposed within a transitional screening yard unless it is placed perpendicular to, or nearly perpendicular to, the transitional screening yard.

12-0315.3 10-year Tree Canopy Calculations. All required calculations for 10-year Tree Canopy calculations must be provided on the landscape plan sheet in accordance with [Table 12.10](#) if they have not already been provided as part of the Tree Conservation Plan.

12-0315.4 Interior Parking Lot Landscaping. All calculations and illustrations for interior parking lot landscaping must be provided on the landscape plan sheet.

12-0315.5 Planted Trees and Easements

- A. The landscape plan must show all existing and proposed easements that may conflict with the tree planting requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#) and this Chapter.
- B. Trees may not be planted within any existing or proposed public utility easement that is required to be delineated on the plan, or within 5 feet of storm drainage easements that contain pipes. In addition, trees may not be planted in an area which will interfere with existing or proposed utilities or obstruct or interfere with access of maintenance personnel or equipment, as determined by the Director, except as may be allowed in accordance with [§ 12-0315.5C](#) below.
- C. If trees are shown to be planted within an existing or proposed public utility easement, the plan must contain a letter of permission from the owner of the easement.

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- D. Trees in public utility easements, even with a letter of permission, will not be granted tree canopy credit and will not be credited toward meeting the transitional screening requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#).
- E. Existing vegetation or proposed plantings fully located within [VDOT](#) rights-of-ways will not be credited toward meeting 10-year Tree Canopy requirements or the screening and landscaping requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#), except as may be permitted in a commercial revitalization district.

12-0315.6 Areas to be Reforested With Seedlings. If areas are shown on the plan to be reforested with seedlings, a legend should be provided describing the species type(s) and stock type(s) to be used (bare root and/or containerized), seedling age, planting method, ground and/or soil treatment to be conducted, ground cover treatment if any and timing relative to other construction activities. Signs should be posted on all sides of the area to be planted. The plan must show the location of all signs and a detail showing the size and text of the signs.

12-0315.7 Other information should be furnished as deemed necessary by the Director.

12-0316 Requirements and Specifications for Replacement Trees and/or Vegetation

12-0316.1 The Director may require that trees located in areas shown to be preserved on an approved Tree Conservation Plan be replaced if removed without prior permission from the Director or if so damaged as to reasonably require removal. The value of replacement trees required by the Director may not exceed the value of those removed as determined by the formula in the current [Guide for Plant Appraisal](#) prepared by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers and published by the [International Society of Arboriculture](#).

- A. If required by the Director, a revision to the approved Tree Conservation Plan must be submitted for the approval of the Director showing the extents of overclearing, proposed new limits of clearing, locations of trees to be removed and the location of replacement trees or tree seedlings.

12-0316.2 Deciduous replacement trees must be a minimum of 2 inches caliper, measured 6 inches from the ground and evergreen trees must be a minimum of 6 to 8 feet in height unless otherwise approved or required by the Director. The type of plant material required must be appropriate for the site condition and planted as specified in [§ 12-0505](#) (see [Table 12.13](#)).

12-0316.3 When an area has been cleared of vegetation for landfill areas or for a temporary use (such as a sediment basin, pond, temporary construction easement, stockpile or construction easements for public or private utility installation), replanting may be required to restore the area to a condition similar to its natural state. At least 25

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percent of the disturbed area must be planted with trees specified in [§ 12-0316.2](#) using the figures for 10-year Tree Canopy. The remaining area must be planted with seedlings as specified in [§ 12-0505.5](#) and stabilized with a seed mix of grasses, and perennials as approved by the Director. All replacement trees must be specified on the planting plan (see [Table 12.14](#)). Native species suitable for the proposed site conditions should be provided approximating the species composition existing before clearing.

- 12-0316.4 When RPAs have been disturbed without prior approval by the Director, or are proposed to be disturbed as part of a construction plan, buffer areas must be restored or created as required under [Chapter 118](#) of the Code and [§ 6-0000 et seq.](#), and planting must be consistent with Performance Criteria found in the “[Riparian Buffers Guidance and Mitigation Guidance Manual](#)” published by the [Division of Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation](#). At least 25 percent of the area must be planted with trees as specified in [§ 12-0316.2](#). In addition, one seedling as specified in [§ 12-0505.5](#) must be planted for each 100 square feet of disturbed area and one shrub with a minimum height of 18 inches must be planted for each 100 square feet of disturbed area. Soil preparation, soil amendments, and/or seed mix is required as determined by the Director. The surface area associated with these plantings may be used to meet 10-year Tree Canopy requirements when being planted to offset allowable disturbances to RPAs.

Area Type	Trees 2 inches in caliper or greater	Shrubs	Seedlings	Other
Temporary Use (§ 12-0316.3)	25% of the disturbed area	N/A	15 per 1,000 ft ²	Grass, and perennial seed mixes
RPA (§ 12-0316.4)	25% of the disturbed area	10 per 1000 ft ²	10 per 1,000 ft ²	Wetland plants, Wetland seed

- 12-0316.5 Land disturbing activity without an approved plan.
- A. When a violation is issued for land disturbing activity involving the removal of trees without an approved plan in accordance with [Chapter 104](#) of the Code, a Tree Conservation Plan must be submitted to the County within the time frame established on the violation. The Tree Conservation Plan must show all site features as they existed before the violation and the site features as they are proposed to appear, in the same manner as if a violation had not occurred. The Tree Conservation Plan must provide a date for completion of all items shown on the plan.

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- B. Site remediation may be required to restore the site to its pre-violation condition. Such remediation may include but not be limited to regrading of the site to the pre-existing contours.
- C. Replacement trees and/or other vegetation may be required by the Director according to the guidelines set forth in [§ 12-0506.4](#).

12-0316.6 Land disturbing activity conducted in violation of an approved Tree Conservation Plan.

- A. A revision to the approved Tree Conservation Plan may be required by the Director when land disturbing activities are conducted, without prior approval of the Director, in areas beyond the limits of clearing shown on the approved plan. The revision must provide all of the required plan information and must show the original limits of clearing approved for the area that was over cleared, and the required number of replacement trees.
- B. Replacement trees and/or other vegetation may be required by the Director according to the guidelines set forth in [§ 12-0506.4](#).

12-0317 Forest Management Plan for Commercial Forests

12-0317.1 A Tree Conservation Plan is not required for the harvesting of trees on commercial forest land if the operation is conducted in conformance with the [Virginia Department of Forestry's Best Management Practices](#). However, when the State Forester is required to be notified of a timber harvesting operation, the operation must be conducted pursuant to a Forest Management Plan approved by the Director.

12-0317.2 A Forest Management Plan will not be approved for land for which a commitment with the County, such as easements, proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions or variance approvals, would preclude the proposed harvest.

12-0317.3 A Forest Management Plan must include but not be limited to the following information:

- A. A written notification, before any harvest on the site, to the County [Urban Forest Management Division](#) of the location, type, timing, and logistics of harvest activities.
- B. A [Virginia Department of Forestry](#) Best Management Practices – Pre-harvest Plan if required by or otherwise prepared for the [Virginia Department of Forestry](#).

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- C. The location of any Heritage, Specimen, Memorial or Street tree(s) designated under [Chapter 120](#) of the Code, along with a tree preservation plan to protect the tree(s) during harvest operations, consistent with the [Chapter 120](#).

12-0400 TREE SELECTION AND CANOPY COVER GUIDE**12-0401 Explanation of Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide**

12-0401.1 Purpose. The Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide ([Table 12.17](#)) contains information which is helpful when selecting trees to be planted on sites after construction has been completed. For the purposes of defining tree canopy credit, the table contains categories of trees based on their ultimate height and spread. This information is not all inclusive, but does include many species which have performed well in this region and are generally available in local nurseries. The highlighted tree species and their cultivars, many of which are native species, have proven to perform well in the landscape under the conditions typical for the listed tree uses. Sections [§ 12-0401.1A](#) through [§ 12-0401.1F](#) provides an explanation of [Table 12.17](#) entitled Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide, columns and codes. The Director may approve trees other than those listed in [Table 12.17](#) for various uses and canopy credit, upon request, with adequate documentation regarding the characteristics of the tree(s) in question.

- A. Botanical/Common Name. This column lists trees alphabetically and categorizes them based on their ultimate size and tree canopy area. Botanical names are given first, including genus, species, and, in some cases, cultivar name. Common names used in the Mid-Atlantic region are given second. Deciduous trees are separated from evergreens in all categories. Evergreens include both coniferous and broadleaf species.
- B. Minimum Planting Area. This column shows the soil surface area in square feet that must be provided when planting a given species. This information should be used to determine the minimum planting space for all planted trees. When minimum planting areas cannot be provided due to existing conditions, alternative designs that provide the maximum possible planting areas may be allowed as approved by the Director. A detail showing the alternative design must be provided on the landscape plan.
- C. Projected 10-year Tree Canopy Area. These columns give the projected 10-year Tree Canopy area in square feet for trees of different sizes at time of planting. Deciduous trees are listed by commonly available caliper sizes and evergreen trees are listed by commonly available heights. The 10-year Tree Canopy cover will be used to determine tree canopy credit for planted trees and will be used for drawing trees to scale on the landscape plan and to determine minimum spacing requirements. When drawn to scale, tree canopies should not significantly overlap (see [§ 12-0315.1D](#)). Trees proposed to be planted in sizes larger than those listed in [Table 12.17](#) (larger than a 3-inch caliper for deciduous trees and taller than 10 feet in height for evergreens) may receive

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additional 10-year Tree Canopy credit using [Table 12.17](#) as a guide as approved by the Director.

- D. Tree Uses and Screening Yard Use. Tree selection should be based upon post-development site conditions (see [Table 12.15](#)).

Table 12.15 Tree Uses and Screening Yard Use Codes

Tree Uses	Code
General	G
Native	N
Parking Lot Planting Areas	PL
Planting in Restricted Areas	RA
Energy Conservation Credit	EC
Wildlife Value	WL
Screening Yard Use	Code
Categorized by Transitional Screening Requirements:	
Large Evergreen Tree	LE
Medium Evergreen Tree	ME
Large Deciduous Tree	LD

1. General (G). These trees are suitable for a variety of uses.
2. Native (N). A native tree is defined as a tree species that the Director determines to be indigenous to any of the forest or woodland communities that were likely present in Fairfax County immediately before European settlement of Virginia. These trees may be used for additional canopy credits as provided in [§ 12-0310.4B](#).
3. Parking Lot Planting Areas (PL). These tree species have been selected for use in parking areas based on their favorable branching habits and tolerance of poor soils, drought, radiant heat and restrictive root space. Trees most appropriate for planting on parking decks will have the following environmental tolerances: restricted root zone (RZ), poor soils (SC), air pollution (AP) and drought tolerance (D). Tree planters on decks should provide the minimum planting areas as stated in [Table 12.17](#) and include a suitable, lightweight soil mix, and means of irrigation and drainage (see [Plate 5-12](#)).
4. Plantings in Restricted Areas (RA). These species should be considered where the ultimate size and form of a tree, along with its root structure, must be given consideration in order to avoid potential maintenance, safety, and access problems.

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5. Screening Trees (LE, ME, LD). Trees identified by these notations are effective in meeting the transitional screening requirements of Article 13 of the [Zoning Ordinance](#), by providing eye-level visual screening. Both deciduous and evergreen species are listed but only evergreens provide year-round screening.
- E. Environmental Tolerances. This column is used to select species that are tolerant of specific environmental factors, both natural and constructed, that occur frequently in the urban setting. Refer to [Table 12.16](#) for the tolerance code list.

Environmental Tolerances	Code
Restricted Root Zone	RZ
Poor Soil Conditions	SC
Partial Shade	PS
Full Shade	SH
Air Pollution	AP
De-icing Salts	IS
Wet Soil Conditions	W
Drought Conditions	D

1. Restricted Root Zone (RZ). These species will tolerate limited planting areas better than other species. Roots of these trees will usually not disrupt surrounding hardscapes. It is noted that trees that are planted in areas that meet only the minimum requirements for planting area, generally will not be healthy, long-lived trees. A larger planting space will result in more healthy, vigorous specimen trees due to increased nutrient availability and improved soil conditions.
2. Poor Soil Conditions (SC). These species are noted for their tolerance to a range of soil conditions found in the urban environment. It should be noted that most trees do not tolerate poor soils. Tolerant trees that may grow in poor soil will generally not thrive.
 - a. A poor soil is a soil used as a growing medium that has marginal properties for support of plant life. Poor soil conditions may include one or more of the following characteristics: low nutrient content (essential nutrients have been leached or the soil lacks nutrient holding capacity), improper pH (a soil that is either too acidic or too alkaline) and poor structure (highly compacted with little pore space and a low water infiltration and percolation rate).

- b. Subsoils used to provide a stable base for sidewalks, parking lots, buildings, etc., and general grading purposes are often inadequate for plant growth. Amending these soils with composted organic matter and agricultural lime may improve soil pH, structure and nutrient availability. Testing soil for pH and nutrient content is advisable before amending soil. Soil amending in individual planting holes is not recommended. If soil amendments are needed, they should be applied using broadcast methods and tilled in over a large planting area.
 3. Partial Shade (PS). These species tolerate or prefer areas receiving partial amounts of direct sunlight such as on the Eastern or Northern sides of structures or forested areas.
 4. Full Shade (SH). These species tolerate or prefer a shaded environment. However, the deeper the shade, the more difficult it is for any tree to thrive.
 5. Air Pollution (AP). This group of species will tolerate areas subjected to exhaust gas emissions found along roadways and within parking lots. These trees are typically deciduous and shed their leaves before particulate matter can damage plant tissue. Evergreens retain leaves or needles longer, allowing particulate matter to be absorbed and destroy plant tissue, and as such are more susceptible to pollution injury.
 6. De-icing Salts (IS). These species are tolerant of root and leaf exposure to de-icing salts such as sodium chloride and calcium chloride. These trees should be planted along roadways and in the vicinity of parking lots, sidewalks and asphalt paths subject to snow and ice removal operations.
 7. Wet Soil Conditions (W). These species will tolerate moderate to excessive soil moisture. These trees should be planted adjacent to waterways, ponds, lakes, stormwater retention and detention facilities.
 8. Drought Conditions (D). These species will tolerate hot, dry conditions. They require less available soil moisture than most trees and should be considered for planting areas subjected to heat, drying winds, and intense solar radiation without the benefit of supplemental moisture. These conditions are often found along roadways, parking lots, parking decks, and around buildings that absorb heat and reflect sunlight.
- F. The “Conditional Use or Reduced Credit”; “Air Quality”; “Energy Conservation”; “Water Quality”; “Wildlife”; “Native”; and “Improved Cultivar/Variety” columns provides information concerning the reduced or

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additional 10-year Tree Canopy credit that various species may receive if planted as provide in [§ 12-0310.3C](#), [§ 12-0310.3D\(2\)](#), and [§ 12-0310.4](#) *et. seq.*

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Table 12.17 Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide

<i>Botanical/ Common Name</i>	Min. Planting Area in ft ²	Projected 10-yr. Tree Canopy Area in ft ² and caliper in inches at planting			Tree Uses	Screening Yard Use	Environmental Tolerances	Conditional Use or reduced credit	Air Quality 12-0310.4B(1)	Energy Conservation 12-0310.4B(2)	Water Quality 12-0310.4B(3)	Wildlife 12-0310.4B(4)	Native 12-0310.4B(5)	Improved Cult./Var. 12-0310.4B(6)
		1.0	2.0	3.0										
CATEGORY I DECIDUOUS TREES		Trees 50 feet or less in height at maturity with a spread less than one-half of their height												
<i>Acer rubrum</i> 'Columnare'/ columnar red maple	50	40	50	75	RA		RZ							
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'/ fastigate European hornbeam	50	40	50	75	RA		PS							
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'fastigiata'/ fastigate European beech	50	40	50	75	RA		PS							
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> 'Sentry'/ sentry ginkgo	50	40	50	75	RA		AP, D, RZ, SC	Yes						
<i>Quercus robur</i> 'Fastigiata'/ fastigate English oak	50	40	50	75	RA		SC							
CATEGORY II DECIDUOUS TREES		Trees that can be maintained at a height of 20 feet or less and have a spread approximately equal to their height												
<i>Acer campestre</i> / hedge maple	50	75	100	125	G		AP, D							
<i>Acer ginnala</i> / amur maple	50	75	100	125	G, RA		D, PS, RZ							
<i>Acer palmatum</i> / Japanese maple	50	75	100	125	G		RZ, SH							
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> / downey serviceberry	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ, W			1.25	1.5	1.5		
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i> / Allegheny serviceberry	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ, W			1.25	1.5	1.5		
<i>Asimina triloba</i> / Paw paw	50	75	100	125			SH, W			1.25	1.5	1.5		
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> / American hornbeam	50	75	100	125	G, RA		SH, W			1.25		1.5		
<i>Castanea pumila</i> / Allegheny chinkapin	50	75	100	125							1.5	1.5		

12-0000 VEGETATION PRESERVATION AND PLANTING

Table 12.17 Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide

<i>Botanical/ Common Name</i>	Min. Planting Area in ft ²	Projected 10-yr. Tree Canopy Area in ft ² and caliper in inches at planting			Tree Uses	Screening Yard Use	Environmental Tolerances	Conditional Use or reduced credit	Air Quality 12-03.10.4B(1)	Energy Conservation 12-03.10.4B(2)	Water Quality 12-03.10.4B(3)	Wildlife 12-03.10.4B(4)	Native 12-03.10.4B(5)	Improved Cult./Var. 12-03.10.4B(6)
		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Cercis canadensis/ Eastern redbud</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		D, PS, RZ, SC						1.5	
<i>Chionanthus virginicus/ fringetree</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ, W			1.25			1.5	
<i>Cornus florida/ flowering dogwood</i>	50	75	100	125	G		PS	Yes				1.5	1.5	
‘Appalachian Spring’	50	75	100	125	G							1.25		1.5
<i>Cornus kousa/ Kousa dogwood</i>	50	75	100	125	G		RZ							
‘Stellar’ Hybrid series	50	75	100	125	G		RZ							1.5
<i>Cornus mas/ Corneliancherry dogwood</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ							
<i>Halesia carolina/ Carolina silverbell</i>	50	75	100	125	G		PS							
<i>Magnolia soulangiana/ saucer magnolia</i>	50	75	100	125	G		AP, RZ							
<i>Magnolia stellata/ star magnolia</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		AP, RZ							
<i>Magnolia virginiana/ sweetbay magnolia</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		RZ, SH, W			1.25			1.5	
<i>Ostrya virginiana/ Eastern hophornbeam</i>	50	75	100	125	G		D, PS						1.5	
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum/ sourwood</i>	50	75	100	125	G		D, PS						1.5	
<i>Prunus x incam</i> ‘Okame’/ Okame cherry	50	75	100	125	RA									
<i>Sassafras albidum/ sassafras</i>	50	75	100	125									1.5	
<i>Stewartia koreana/ Korean stewartia</i>	50	75	100	125	RA		RZ							
<i>Stewartia ovata/ Mountain stewartia</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		RZ							

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Table 12.17 Tree Selection and Canopy Cover Guide

<i>Botanical/ Common Name</i>	Min. Planting Area in ft ²	Projected 10-yr. Tree Canopy Area in ft ² and caliper in inches at planting			Tree Uses	Screening Yard Use	Environmental Tolerances	Conditional Use or reduced credit	Air Quality 12-0310.4B(1)	Energy Conservation 12-0310.4B(2)	Water Quality 12-0310.4B(3)	Wildlife 12-0310.4B(4)	Native 12-0310.4B(5)	Improved Cult./Var. 12-0310.4B(6)
		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Stewartia pseudocamellia/ Japanese stewartia</i>	50	75	100	125	RA		RZ							
<i>Syrax americana/ American snowbell</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ							
<i>Syrax japonicus/ Japanese snowbell</i>	50	75	100	125	G, RA		PS, RZ							
CATEGORY III DECIDUOUS TREES	Trees 25 to 50 feet in height at maturity with a spread equal to or greater than their height and trees over 50 feet in height at maturity with a spread less than their height													
<i>Aesculus flava/ Yellow buckeye</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	IS, SC	1.5						
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum/ Horse chestnut</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	IS, SC							
<i>Betula nigra/ river birch</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	W			1.25	1.5	1.5		
<i>Castanea mollissima/ Chinese chestnut</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD								
<i>Celtis occidentalis/ Hackberry</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	AP, D, SC, W	1.5	1.25	1.5	1.5			
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum/ Katsuratree</i>	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD		1.5						
<i>Cladrastis kentuckea/ yellowwood</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	W	1.5						
<i>Diospiros virginiana/ persimmon</i>	90	125	150	175			D, SC				1.5	1.5		
<i>Eucommia ulmoides/ hardy rubber tree</i>	90	125	150	175	PL		D, SC							
<i>Fagus sylvatica/ European beech</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LD	PS							
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis/ thornless honeylocust</i>	90	125	150	175	PL	LD	AP, D, SC, W							
‘Imperial’	90	125	150	175	PL	LD	AP, D, SC, W							

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
'Skyline'	90	125	150	175	PL	LD	AP, D, SC, W							
'Shademaster'	90	125	150	175	PL	LD	AP, D, SC, W							
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i> / Kentucky coffeetree	90	125	150	175	G	LD	D, SC, W				1.25	1.5		
<i>Juglans nigra</i> / black walnut	90	125	150	175		LD	SC, W				1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> / goldenrain tree	90	125	150	175	G		D, SC							
<i>Larix decidua</i> / European larch	90	125	150	175	G	LD	D							
<i>Maclura pomifera</i> / Osage orange (male only)	90	125	150	175	G, N	LD	D						1.5	
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> / Cucumber tree	90	125	150	175	G, N	LD							1.5	
<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i> / bigleaf magnolia	90	125	150	175	G	LD								
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> / dawn redwood	90	125	150	175	G	LD	AP, W							
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> / black gum	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD	PS, W		1.5	1.25	1.5	1.5		
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i> / amur corktree (male only)	90	125	150	175	G	LD	AP, D	Yes						
<i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Kwansan'/ Kwansan cherry	90	125	150	175	G	LD	AP							
<i>Prunus sargentii</i> / sargent cherry	90	125	150	175	G									
<i>Prunus subhirtella</i> / weeping Japanese cherry	90	125	150	175	G									
<i>Prunus yedoensis</i> / Yoshino cherry	90	125	150	175	G									

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Salix nigra</i> / Black willow	90	125	150	175							1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Sophora japonica</i> / Japanese pagoda tree	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD	AP, D, SC		1.5	1.5				
<i>Taxodium distichum</i> / bald cypress	90	125	150	175	G	LD	W				1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Tilia cordata</i> / littleleaf linden	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD	AP		1.5					
‘Glenleven’	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD	AP		1.5					
‘Greenspire’	90	125	150	175	G, PL	LD	AP		1.5					
CATEGORY IV DECIDUOUS TREES	Trees 50 feet and greater in height at maturity with a spread equal to or greater than their height and trees over 75 feet in height at maturity with a spread less than their height													
<i>Acer rubrum</i> / red maple	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	IS, PS, W		1.5	1.5	1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Acer saccharum</i> / sugar maple	130	150	200	250	G	LD	PS	Yes	1.5	1.5		1.5		
<i>Carya cordiformis</i> / Bitternut hickory	130	150	200	250	G	LD			1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Carya glabra</i> / Pignut hickory	130	150	200	250	G	LD			1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Carya illinoensis</i> / pecan	130	150	200	250	G	LD	W		1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Carya ovata</i> / shagbark hickory	130	150	200	250	G	LD			1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Carya tomentosa</i> / mockernut hickory	130	150	200	250	G	LD			1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Fagus americana</i> / American beech	130	150	200	250	G	LD	PS		1.5			1.5	1.5	
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> / ginkgo (male only)	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	AP, D, RZ		1.5	1.5				
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> / sweetgum	65	75	100	125	G	LD	W	Yes 0.5			1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> / tulip poplar	130	150	200	250	G	LD	AP, W		1.5			1.5	1.5	

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Platanus acerifolia</i> / London planetree	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	AP, D			1.5				
'Bloodgood'	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	AP, D			1.5				1.5
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> / sycamore	130	150	200	250	G	LD	W				1.25		1.5	
<i>Quercus alba</i> / white oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD	IS			1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus bicolor</i> / swamp white oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD	D, IS, SC, W			1.5	1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus coccinea</i> / scarlet oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD	W					1.5		
<i>Quercus falcata</i> / Southern red oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD				1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i> / shingle oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD						1.5		
<i>Quercus palustris</i> / pin oak	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	W	Yes			1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus prinus</i> / Chestnut oak	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD	D			1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus phellos</i> / willow oak	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD				1.5	1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus rubra</i> (borealis)/ Northern red oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD	IS			1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus stellata</i> / post oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD				1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Quercus velutina</i> / black oak	130	150	200	250	G	LD				1.5		1.5	1.5	
<i>Tilia americana</i> / American linden, basswood	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD			1.5	1.5			1.5	
'Redmond'	130	150	200	250	PL	LD			1.5	1.5			1.5	

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
'Legend'	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD			1.5	1.5			1.5	
<i>Ulmus americana</i> 'Valley Forge'/ American elm	130	150	200	250	G	LD	D		1.5	1.5	1.25			1.5
<i>Ulmus carpinifolia</i> 'Groenveldt'/ Groenveldt elm	130	150	200	250	G	LD	D		1.5	1.5	1.25			1.5
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> / Chinese elm	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD			1.5	1.5				
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> / Japanese zelkova	130	150	200	250	G, PL	LD			1.5					
CATEGORY I EVERGREEN TREES	Trees generally less than 30 feet in height at maturity with a spread less than 15 feet													
<i>Ilex x attenuata</i> 'Fosteri'/ Foster's holly	30	40	50	75	G	ME	SH							
<i>Ilex x Nellie Stevens</i> '/ Nellie Stevens holly	30	40	50	75	G	ME								
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> / Chinese juniper	30	40	50	75	G		D							
'Columnaris'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Denserecta'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Erecta Glauca'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Grey Gleam'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Hetzi columnaris'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Keteleeri'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Robusta green'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							
'Torulosa'	30	40	50	75	RA		D							

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Princeton Sentry'/Eastern redcedar	30	40	50	75	RA	ME	D, IS							
<i>Taxus baccata</i> 'Fastigiata'/upright Irish yew	30	40	50	75	RA									
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> 'Nigra'/dark green American arborvitae	30	40	50	75	G, RA	ME	W							
<i>Thuja orientalis</i> /Columnar oriental arborvitae	30	40	50	75	G, RA		PS, W							
CATEGORY II EVERGREEN TREES	Trees 30 to 40 feet in height at maturity with a spread of 15 to 20 feet													
<i>Abies conolor</i> /white fir	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> /incense cedar	50	75	100	125	G	ME	W							
<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i> /Lawson falsecypress	50	75	100	125	G	ME	PS							
<i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i> /Hinoki false cypress	50	75	100	125	G	LE	W							
<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i> 'Plumosa'/plume sawara false cypress	50	75	100	125	G	ME	W							
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i> /Atlantic whitecedar	50	75	100	125	G	ME	W							
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> /Japanese cryptomeria	50	75	100	125	G	LE	IS							
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> /China fir	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i> /Leyland cypress	25	38	50	63	G	LE	PS, W	0.5						
<i>Ilex aquafolium</i> /English holly	50	75	100	125	G	ME	SH							
<i>Ilex opaca</i> /American holly	50	75	100	125	G	ME	IS, SH			1.25	1.5	1.5		

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Moonglow'/ Rocky Mt. Juniper	50	75	100	125	G	ME	D							
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> / Eastern redcedar	50	75	100	125	G	ME	PS						1.5	
'Canaert'	50	75	100	125	G	ME	D, IS							
'Manhattan Blue'	50	75	100	125	G	ME	D, IS							
<i>Picea glauca</i> / white spruce	50	75	100	125	G	LE	D, PS, RZ							
<i>Picea omorika</i> / Serbian spruce	50	75	100	125	G	LE								
<i>Picea orientalis</i> / Oriental spruce	50	75	100	125	G	LE	SC							
<i>Picea pungens</i> / Colorado blue spruce	50	75	100	125	G	ME	D							
<i>Pinus bungeana</i> / lacebark pine	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Pinus parviflora</i> / Japanese white pine	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i> / Japanese black pine	50	75	100	125	G	ME	D, IS, RZ							
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> / Douglas fir	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Taxus cuspidata</i> 'Capitata'/ pyramidal Japanese yew	50	75	100	125	G	ME								
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i> / Canadian hemlock	25	38	50	63	G	ME	SH	0.5					1.5	
<i>Tsuga caroliniana</i> / Carolina hemlock	25	38	50	63	G	ME	SH	0.5						

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		1.0	2.0	3.0										
CATEGORY III EVERGREEN TREES	Trees 40 to 50 in height at maturity with a spread of 20 to 30 feet													
<i>Cedrus atlantica/ atlas cedar</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LE								
<i>Picea abies/ Norway spruce</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LE	PS							
<i>Pinus echinata/ shortleaf pine</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LE	PS						1.5	
<i>Pinus nigra/ Austrian pine</i>	90	125	150	175	G	LE								
CATEGORY IV EVERGREEN TREES	Trees 50 feet in height or greater at maturity with a spread of over 30 feet													
<i>Magnolia grandiflora/ Southern magnolia</i>	130	150	200	250	G	LE	PS, W							
<i>Pinus rigida/ pitch pine</i>	130	150	200	250	G	LE						1.5	1.5	
<i>Pinus strobus/ white pine</i>	65	75	100	125	G	LE	PS	0.5						
<i>Pinus sylvestris/ Scotch pine</i>	130	150	200	250	G	LE	D							
<i>Pinus taeda/ loblolly pine</i>	130	150	200	250	G	LE	W				1.25	1.5	1.5	
<i>Pinus virginiana Virginia pine</i>	130	150	200	250		LE	PS					1.5	1.5	
TREE USES: G=general, PL=parking lot, RA=for restricted areas														
SCREENING YARD USE, LD=large deciduous, ME=medium evergreen, LE=large evergreen (see Sect. 13-303 of the Zoning Ordinance)														
ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES: AP=air pollution, D=drought, IS=de-icing salts, PS=partial shade, RZ=restricted root zone, SC=poor soil conditions, SH=full shade, W=wet soil (see § 12-0401.1E)														
CONDITIONAL USE OR REDUCED CREDIT (see § 12-0310.3D(2))														

12-0500 STANDARDS FOR FIELD PRACTICE**12-0501 Preconstruction**

- 12-0501.1 Before the preconstruction meeting, all activities prescribed on an approved Tree Conservation Plan that are to occur before construction must be completed.
- 12-0501.2 When areas shown on the approved plans to be preserved do not contain any significant vegetation, it is the responsibility of the permittee to obtain approval from the Director for an exemption from preservation and protection requirements before clearing the area.
- 12-0501.3 All trees labeled on the approved tree inventory as “Assessed as dead,” “Assessed in Poor condition” or “Assessed as high risk” as provided in [§ 12-0307](#) will be evaluated by [Urban Forest Management Division](#) Staff (or alternative staff as determined by the Director) before, or during the pre-construction walk-through for removal or other arboricultural treatments during the development site’s initial land clearing operations.
- 12-0501.4 The Director may require the removal or treatment of any tree or tree condition described in [§ 12-0307](#) and [§ 12-0501.3](#) that has not been identified on the approved plans but is observed during the preconstruction walk-through, or during any other inspection of the site. The Director may also require the removal or treatment of any tree or portion thereof that has become high risk or a maintenance nuisance due to the introduction of a target such as a structure, open space frequented by people, or other improvement. Trees should be removed by hand with a chain saw and the stump should be left in place unless it too is deemed a high risk or a maintenance nuisance. The removal of the trunk or branches of the felled tree(s) is not required within wooded areas, unless specifically required by the Director.
- 12-0501.5 If demolition of existing site features (houses, structures, etc.) is to occur next to trees to be preserved, tree protection must be installed before a demolition permit can be issued.

12-0502 Land Clearing Operations

- 12-0502.1 Before land disturbing activities, root pruning with a vibratory plow, trencher or other device approved by the Director must be conducted along the limits of clearing adjacent to tree preservation areas (see [Plate 7-12](#)).
- 12-0502.2 Trees being removed may not be felled, pushed or pulled into tree preservation areas. Equipment operators may not clean any part of their equipment by slamming it against the trunks of trees to be retained.

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- 12-0502.3 Trees on the edge of the limits of clearing should be cut down by hand with a chain saw. Remaining stumps should either be left in place or ground down with a stump grinder.
- 12-0502.4 Unless otherwise determined by the Director, trees approved by [Urban Forest Management](#) staff to be removed during pre-construction walk-through as provided by [§ 12-0501.3](#) and [§ 12-0501.4](#) must be removed in conjunction with the development site's initial land clearing operation.
- 12-0502.5 The permittee may preserve individual trees or groups of trees over and above that required by the approved plan. However, any additional tree preservation area(s) must be protected from construction activity in accordance with the methods allowed in [§ 12-0503](#).
- 12-0502.6 The removal of any individual trees or tree preservation areas designated for preservation on the tree preservation plan and narrative must be pre-approved by the Director and may require a revision to the approved Tree Conservation Plan.

12-0503 Tree and Forested Area Protection

- 12-0503.1 Tree Protection Devices. The permittee must protect the above and below-ground portions of all vegetation shown on the approved plan to be preserved within and contiguous to the site. Protective devices must be installed before any clearing and grading activity if specified in the tree preservation plan or required by proffered conditions, development plans, conceptual/final development plans, PRC plans, special permits, special exceptions or variance approvals.
- A. Along all limits of clearing adjacent to areas of vegetation to be preserved, a device must be used which effectively protects the above and below-ground portions of the trees and other vegetation to be preserved.
1. The device(s) used must be installed in conformance with the approved tree preservation plan and narrative and all construction personnel must be instructed to honor these devices. The protection devices described below in [§ 12-0503.1B](#) must be installed and maintained on sites with the exception of the silt controls listed in [§ 12-0503.1C](#) through [§ 12-0503.1D](#) which may be used as tree protection devices if proposed for installation at the limits of clearing on the approved erosion and sedimentation control plan. The Director may also require the placement of one of the tree protective devices listed in [§ 12-0503.1B](#) to supplement the erosion and sediment control devices listed in [§ 12-0503.1C](#) through [§ 12-0503.1D](#) if these are not deemed to provide adequate protection. Other devices

affording effective protection may be used subject to the Director's approval.

- B. Orange plastic fence, welded wire fence, chain link fence, silt fence or super silt fence may be used as devices to protect trees and forested areas. The protective device must be placed within the disturbed area at the limits of clearing and erected at a minimum height of 4 feet, except for super silt fence where height may be 3.5 feet. The fencing material must be mounted on 6-foot tall steel posts driven 1.5 feet into the ground and placed a maximum of 6 feet apart, except for welded wire fence and chain link fence where steel posts may be placed a maximum of 10 feet apart (see [Plate 6-12](#)).
- C. Filter fabric fence or silt fence. This fencing may be used for tree protection when placed at the limits of grading and constructed as specified in the [Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook](#). The Director may also require the placement of one of the tree protective devices listed in [§ 12-0503.1B](#) if the filter fabric fence is not deemed adequate to protect the trees shown on the approved plan to be preserved.
- D. Berm. A temporary perimeter dike which has been constructed for erosion and sediment control may double as a protective device for vegetation to be preserved. The dike must be constructed as specified in the [Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook](#) and must be constructed entirely within the disturbed area immediately adjacent to the limits of clearing. Before construction of the dike, or if the dike is removed before the construction is completed, the Director may require the installation of tree protection fence and/or erosion and sediment control devices.

12-0503.2 Once clearing is completed and protective devices have been installed according to the approved Phase I erosion and sediment control plan (see [§ 11-0104.1](#)), an inspection must be requested by the permittee or their designee. The Phase I clearing and erosion and sediment control devices must be approved by the Director before additional clearing begins.

12-0503.3 The permittee must post and maintain bilingual signs at the limits of clearing at a minimum of 50-foot intervals that clearly states that trees and forested areas must be protected and left undisturbed. For example, such signage could read “Tree Protection Zone - Keep Out – Off limits to Construction Equipment, Materials and Workers.” Signs must be posted in English and Spanish, and they should be posted in any other combination of languages that the Director determines necessary to protect trees and forested areas. Signs must remain posted throughout all phases of construction; must be attached to the tree protection fencing; and, may not be nailed or in any manner attached to the trees or vegetation to be preserved.

12-0504 Treatment of Trees and Forested Areas During Construction

- 12-0504.1 Trees and forested areas must be protected and managed during all phases of construction in accordance with the provisions of this section and any site-specific guidance provided within the approved tree preservation plan and narrative.
- 12-0504.2 Trees and forested areas must be protected and managed during all phases of construction in a manner that will ensure that these resources conform to the post-development Tree and Forested Area standards provided in [§§ 12-0203](#) and [12-0204](#) at the end of construction. These standards require that trees survive construction in a manner that substantially retains their pre-develop level of biological function, health and structural condition; and require that forested areas survive construction in a manner that preserves the ecological functionality, health, and condition of super- and sub-canopy tree species; woody shrubs, herbaceous plants, vines, non-vascular plants and epiphytes; decaying leaf litter, root mass, fungi, soil biota and soil conditions that may be present.
- 12-0504.3 In addition to protecting trees, the permittee must protect all understory plants, leaf litter and soil conditions found in forested areas designated to be left preserved except as may be allowed by the approved tree preservation plan and narrative.
- 12-0504.4 The permittee should actively monitor the construction site to ensure that inappropriate activities such as the storage of construction materials, dumping of construction debris, and traffic by construction equipment and personnel do not occur within areas shown to be preserved outside of the limits of clearing.
- 12-0504.5 Any work allowed by the approved tree preservation plan and narrative to occur adjacent to trees or within forested areas to be preserved, such as root pruning; installation of tree protection fencing and silt control devices; removal of trash or debris; or extraction of trees designated to be removed to eliminate hazardous conditions must be performed in a manner that minimizes damage to trees, understory shrubs, herbaceous plants, leaf litter, roots systems and soil conditions.
- 12-0504.6 The permittee must restore understory plant materials, leaf litter and soil conditions to the satisfaction of the Director if these are found to be damaged, removed or altered in a manner not specifically allowed by the provisions of this Chapter or not specifically addressed within the approved tree preservation plan and narrative.
- 12-0504.7 Tree protection devices must be maintained until all work in the vicinity has been completed and may not be removed or relocated without the consent of the Director. If the Director deems that the protective devices are insufficient, installation of additional protective devices will be required.

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- 12-0504.8 Heavy equipment, vehicular traffic, stockpiling of materials or deposition of sediment will not be permitted within tree preservation areas.
- 12-0504.9 Any power equipment use prescribed by the approved tree preservation plan narrative within tree preservation areas should be limited to small hand-operated equipment such as chainsaws.
- 12-0504.10 Any work within tree preservation areas requiring the use of larger motorized equipment such as, but not limited to, tree transplanting spades, skid loaders, tractors, trucks, stump-grinders, or any accessory or attachment connected to such equipment may not occur unless approved in writing by the Director, or unless the activity has been specifically addressed within the approved tree preservation plan narrative.
- 12-0504.11 No toxic materials should be stored near retained vegetation in accordance with the current [Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code](#) safe distance.
- 12-0504.12 Fires authorized by [Fairfax County Air Pollution Control Ordinance](#), [Fire Prevention Code](#), or any other State or County law are not permitted within 100 feet of vegetated areas retained unless approved by the Director in accordance with the ordinance, code or law. If authorized, fires should be limited in size so as not to adversely affect the vegetation.
- 12-0504.13 No protective devices, signs, utility boxes or other objects may be nailed or affixed to trees to be preserved.
- 12-0504.14 If the Director determines that a tree or portion thereof is dead, declining, a high risk, or a property maintenance burden due to construction or environmental changes resulting from construction; or, is high risk to life or property because of conditions not related to construction, the Director will require the permittee to remove the tree or portion thereof. The permittee must take such action as necessary to eliminate the tree or portion thereof carefully. The permittee must notify the Director of any actions taken or proposed to be taken under this Section.
- 12-0504.15 The main trunks of dead trees may be allowed to remain on sites where the Director determines that a “trunk snag” may provide habitat or other wildlife benefits and have little or no potential to cause personal injury or property damage, or to obstruct streams or other drainage.
- 12-0504.16 When excavating, trenching, or tunneling, all tree roots greater than 1 inch in diameter that are exposed and/or damaged must be trimmed cleanly, and covered with organic mulch, topsoil, or other suitable material to prevent the exposed roots from drying out.

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- 12-0504.17 Retaining walls must be provided when necessary to maintain the limits of clearing and tie into existing grades. An [International Society of Arboriculture \(ISA\)](#) Certified Arborist or [ASCA](#) Registered Consulting Arborist should be consulted to determine the proper tree wall location to protect the structural integrity of the tree's root system, to help ensure the tree's survival and public safety. Once a grade has been lowered for the construction of a tree wall, the wall should be constructed as soon as possible, but, in any event, within two weeks.
- 12-0504.18 Any damage inflicted to the above or below-ground portions of the trees shown to be preserved should be repaired immediately. All damaged branches in the crown should be repaired, as specified in [§ 12-0506.2](#) using standards identified in [§ 12-0506.5](#).
- 12-0504.19 Any portion of a tree preservation area that is disturbed without prior approval of the Director must be mulched immediately with a minimum of 4 inches of wood chips or other suitable material as approved by the Director.
- 12-0504.20 Trenching must be done only within the areas shown to be disturbed on the approved plan, unless otherwise approved by the Director before commencing work (see [Plate 7-12](#)).
- 12-0504.21 Trees or preservation areas that are damaged by trenching or tunneling should be inspected within 24 hours to assess any structural damage to the above or below ground portions of trees. If it is determined by the Director that the damaged trees should be retained, trees should be mulched with wood chips mulch or other suitable material immediately after the work is completed. Mulch should be placed 4-inches deep and cover the entire area of disturbance to mitigate the impacts of disturbance.
- 12-0505 Tree and Shrub Planting**
- 12-0505.1 Materials
- A. The trees and shrubs that are planted must be of the species and size specified on the approved plans unless substitutions are approved in accordance with this section.
 - B. All tree and shrub sizes must meet the standards specified in the current edition of the American Association of Nurserymen's [American Standard for Nursery Stock](#), ([ANSI Z60.1](#)).
 - C. Tree substitutions within the tree categories listed in [Table 12.17](#) are generally accepted unless post-development conditions conflict with the environmental tolerances of the substituted species; or unless otherwise specified by proffered

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conditions, development conditions, special exceptions, special permits, or variances and must comply with the following:

1. The use of substitutions should not result in exceeding the genus and species diversity limits specified in [§ 12-0315.1L](#).
 2. A letter signed by the permittee or their designee must be provided to the Director acknowledging any proposed substitutions to trees or shrubs shown on the approved Tree Conservation Plan.
 3. Substitution of a tree shown on the approved plan from one tree category with a tree from another category requires the approval of the Director.
- D. Trees and shrubs must be nursery grown unless otherwise approved and must be healthy and vigorous, and the root crown must be located at the top of the root ball. Plants must be free from defects, decay, disfiguring roots, sun-scald, injuries, abrasions, diseases, insect pests, and all forms of infestations or objectionable disfigurements as determined by the Director. All plants, including balled and burlapped, bare root and container grown, must comply with the current [American Standard for Nursery Stock, \(ANSI Z60.1\)](#).

12-0505.2 Delivery and Temporary Storage

- A. Delivery and storage of trees and shrubs must comply with recommendations contained in the current edition of the [American National Standards Institute \(ANSI\) A300, Part 6, *Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance: Standard Practices*](#) (Planting and Transplanting), and the current edition of the [International Society of Arboriculture *Best Management Practices: Tree Planting*](#).

12-0505.3 Planting of Nursery Stock

- A. All trees and shrubs must be planted as specified in the current edition of the [American National Standards Institute \(ANSI\) A300, Part 6, *Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance: Standard Practices*](#) (Planting and Transplanting), and the current edition of the [International Society of Arboriculture *Best Management Practices: Tree Planting*](#).
- B. If planting in areas that have been previously compacted, the soil should be properly prepared (tilled and amended as needed based on soil samples) to a depth of 1 foot before installation of landscape material. Soil within individual planting holes should not be amended.

- C. The staking and guying of trees is not required except where the Director determines that site conditions warrant their use. Examples of conditions where these methods may be necessary include: planting in windy locations, on steep slopes, or where vandalism may be a concern. All stakes and guys must be removed within one year of plant installation.

12-0505.4 Planting of Transplanted Trees and Shrubs

- A. Selection. Trees to be transplanted must be full and healthy without any significant defects and should be able to overcome root disturbance. The proposed transplant location(s) should approximate the environmental tolerances the species is able to withstand.
- B. Planting of transplanted trees and shrubs must be consistent with recommendations contained in the current edition of the [American National Standards Institute \(ANSI\) A300, Part 6, Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance: Standard Practices](#) (Planting and Transplanting), and the current edition of the [International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices: Tree Planting](#).

12-0505.5 Seedling and Shrub Planting Specifications

- A. Seedlings and shrubs must be planted where shown on the Tree Conservation Plan.
- B. Density. Seedlings and shrubs must be planted at a density of approximately 400 seedlings per acre unless otherwise specified in other Chapters such as found in [§ 6-1311](#) (Reforestation).
- C. Size and Age. Seedlings should be at least three years old and 12 inches in height. Any age configuration in terms of initial seedbed age to transplant bed age such as 3-0, 2-1, 1-2, etc., is permissible so long as the total age is 3 years. Seedlings of a greater age may be used provided they conform to the specifications outlined under this Section.
- D. Quality. Planting stock must be healthy and free from insect and disease pests and have a single leader. The root system is to be well developed, fibrous, and kept moist until planted.
- E. Time of planting. Seedlings should be planted between the dates of March 1 and May 15, and November 15 and December 15 unless otherwise approved by the Director.

- F. Soil and Bed Preparation. In areas of undisturbed, uncompacted soil, seedlings may be planted with a dibble bar, shovel, or auger. See Plate 3.37-4 in the [Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook](#) for a description of the dibble bar method. See [Plate 8-12](#) for an illustration of the shovel or auger method.
1. In areas of compacted soil or fill, the soil throughout the area should be amended with 3-6 inches of organic matter and thoroughly tilled to a depth of 12 inches before planting. After the soil has been prepared and allowed to settle, the seedlings may be planted using the dibble bar, shovel or auger method.
 2. Tree seedlings and shrubs providing 10-year Tree Canopy credits as provided in [§ 12-0310.4D](#) must be planted in contiguous mulch beds. The mulch bed should consist of minimum of 2 inches of organic mulch that should be placed on the topsoil layer at final grade. Mulch should consist of wood chips, bark chips, or shredded bark that has been aged for a minimum of 4 months. Mulch beds must be kept free of any grass, weeds, vines and any other plant or condition that might hinder the establishment of the tree canopy.
- G. Pre-planting Treatment. Seedlings must be kept moist, fresh, and protected from wind and sun to prevent stress before planting. Seedlings should be carried in a pail or bucket filled with sufficient mud and/or water to puddle the roots until planting. However, seedling roots which have been clay dipped for moisture protection may be wrapped in wet burlap until planted instead of being carried in a bucket.
- H. Planting Method. Seedlings should be planted at approximately the same depth as growing in the nursery, i.e., the root collar should be at ground level.
1. Seedlings must be planted erect.
 2. Seedling roots must be spread carefully in a natural position in the planting hole.
 3. Seedlings must be securely planted with the soil firmly packed around the roots.
- I. Protective Tubing. Deciduous seedlings should be planted with 4-foot tall tree protection tubes, mulch, and netting when required by the Director.

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J. Watering. Seedlings must be watered the day they are planted and thereafter as necessary to ensure that the minimum viability percentages identified in [§§ 12-0505.7B](#) and [.7C](#) are met.

12-0505.6 Shrubs planted to supplement tree seedlings for tree canopy credits as provided in [§ 12-0310.4D](#) should be planted at the same density as seedlings (400 plants per acre and should be planted in 5-18 inch spread or larger size) or in sizes the species normally obtains when distributed as 3-gallon container stock.

12-0505.7 Mortality Rates and Replacement Procedures. Planting of tree seedlings, woody shrubs and woody seed mix must be well established before release of the conservation deposit. The conservation deposit will be held for a minimum of two years after the initial installation of the plantings.

A. Ninety percent or more of the nursery stock trees and shrubs required by the approved plan must be healthy and capable of developing a trunk and branch structure typical for their species at the time the conservation deposit is released.

B. Sixty-seven percent or more of the initial tree seedling and shrub density required by the approved plan must be viable at the time the conservation deposit is released.

C. If these minimum percentages are not met at the time of inspection, additional seedlings, woody shrubs, or woody seed mix must be re-established at densities necessary to achieve the required minimum percentages of viability identified in [§§ 12-0505.7A](#) and [.7B](#) above.

12-0506 End of Construction

12-0506.1 Inspection. The developer must request an inspection when construction is completed to ensure that all work is in accordance with the approved plans.

12-0506.2 Repair. All trees that have been damaged as a result of construction activity must be repaired using standards identified in [§ 12-0506.5](#).

12-0506.3 Tree Removal

A. If the Director determines that a tree or portion thereof is dead, declining, is a high risk, or a property maintenance burden due to construction or environmental changes resulting from construction; or, is a high risk to life or property because of conditions not related to construction, the Director may require the permittee to remove the tree or portion thereof. The permittee must take such action as necessary to eliminate the tree or portion thereof carefully.

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The permittee must notify the Director of any actions taken or proposed to be taken under this Section.

1. The main trunks of dead trees may be allowed to remain on sites where the Director determines that a “trunk snag” may provide habitat or other wildlife benefits and have little or no potential to cause personal injury or property damage, or to obstruct streams or other drainage.
2. Trees that are required to be removed must be removed in such a way to minimize damage to the surrounding trees, vegetation, landscaping, structures, and site features.
3. With the exception of trees that are left “trunk snags” as provided in [§ 12-0506.3A\(1\)](#) above, trees that are required to be removed should be cut down flush with the ground (within 2 inches of the soil), and cut into movable lengths, to prevent the creation of a new hazard. If site conditions interfere with the permittee's ability to do this, an inspection by the Director will be necessary to determine if the remaining stump can be left or must be removed by other means.
4. If a stump created by the removal of a high risk tree is determined by the Director to pose a high risk (i.e., jagged stumps, holes resulting from hollow trees) then the Director may also require the stump to be removed in a manner that eliminates the risk.
5. When trees must be taken down or pruned to comply with the provisions of this Section, the resulting wood should remain the property of the property owner. Limbs 3-inches in diameter and smaller should be removed from the site unless approval is granted by the Director to leave limbs in a wooded area.

12-0506.4 Replacement trees

- A. The tree canopy lost due to the removal of trees that have died or are in serious decline due to construction must be replaced by the planting of replacement trees, except as provided for in [§ 12-0506.4D](#). Replacement trees must be planted in the vicinity of the dead or dying tree which was removed unless other arrangements are agreed to by the owner and the permittee and approved by the Director. Replacement trees should duplicate the species composition of the surrounding forest as closely as possible.
- B. Forested areas that no longer meet the minimum forested area size and dimensions of [§ 12-0204.4](#) because of fragmentation or reduction in size due to unapproved construction or clearing activities will forfeit any additional tree

canopy area accredited to those areas within the approved 10-year Tree Canopy calculations. Although tree replacement may be required for remediating unapproved clearing as provided in [§ 12-0316](#), tree planting will not constitute remediation for failure to maintain minimum forested area size and dimensions.

- C. If unapproved clearing results in forested areas no longer meeting minimum area size and dimensions, the Director may require the permittee to submit a revision to the approved Tree Conservation Plan that re-examines the site's conformance with 10-year Tree Canopy requirements.
- D. Except for trees required to be preserved because of applicable proffered conditions, development conditions, special exceptions, special permits, variances or other County requirements, replacement trees may not be required when individual trees or groups of trees shown on the approved plans to be preserved need to be removed for a reason clearly demonstrated to the Director before their removal. However, the Director may determine that replacement trees are required to bring the site into conformance with 10-year Tree Canopy provision of [§ 12-0000](#) *et seq.* and [Chapter 122](#) of the Code *et seq.*
- E. The permittee must obtain written permission from the property owner or their agent before entering the subject property to comply with the requirements of this Section. If permission is denied and the denial is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director, the permittee may be required to plant replacement trees elsewhere on-site, or to provide an equivalent area of 10-year Tree Canopy provided by the trees through one of the off-site mechanisms provided in [§ 12-0312](#).

12-0506.5 Pruning

- A. All pruning must be done in accordance with the current edition [American National Standards Institute \(ANSI\) A300, Part 1, Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance: Standard Practices](#) (Pruning), and the current edition of the [International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices: Tree Pruning](#). Pruning must be done by personnel who, through training and on-the-job experience, understand the techniques and hazards of tree care work and understand the safety requirements outlined in the current [ANSI Z133.1](#) standards. Refer to the ANSI standards listed above, and [Plate 9-12](#) for a graphical depiction of proper pruning technique.
 - 1. Cuts and wounds may not be treated with tree wound dressing unless approved by the Director.

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2. Climbing spikes. Climbing or tree spikes may not be used to climb live trees unless the tree is being removed.

B. Newly planted vegetation

1. Any vegetation required by the approved conservation plan or the Director, which in the opinion of the Director is dead or is not healthy, must be replaced by the permittee.
2. Trees must be restaked by the permittee if necessary. All stakes and supporting wires must be removed within one year of planting, or if earlier than one year, before the release of the conservation deposit.

12-0506.6 Conveying tree and forested area management plan information to property owners

- A. Any permittee that will convey ownership of common open space to a homeowner or civic association, or intends to sell a newly constructed development site to new property owners must convey any long-term tree, forested area or invasive plant management information that was prepared to satisfy tree conservation plan requirements of [§ 12-0308](#). The new property owners will then have these documents as a resource to help ensure the long-term viability of trees and forested areas located on their property.