

Subdivision Landscaping Standards

Document Version: Sample

Date: June 2024

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish the minimum landscaping standards for all residential and commercial subdivisions, ensuring aesthetic quality, sustainability, and environmental responsibility.

2. Applicability

These standards apply to all new subdivisions and major renovations within the jurisdiction of [City/County Name].

3. General Requirements

- Landscaping plans must be submitted and approved prior to commencement of construction.
- At least 20% of the lot area shall be dedicated to landscaping.
- No invasive plant species shall be used.
- All turf areas shall be comprised of drought-resistant grass varieties.
- Mulch must be applied to all non-turf planted areas to a minimum depth of 2 inches.

4. Plant Material Standards

Type	Minimum Size	Spacing
Shade Trees	2-inch caliper	1 per 40 linear feet of frontage
Ornamental Trees	6 feet height	1 per 800 sq. ft. of landscaped area
Shrubs	18-inch spread	5 per 250 sq. ft. of landscaped area
Groundcover	-	Coverage of 90% within 2 years

5. Maintenance

- All landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition, free of weeds, pests, and litter.
- Dead or damaged plant materials must be replaced within 30 days.

6. Irrigation

All landscaped areas must be served by an automatic irrigation system or other approved water-efficient methods.

7. Screening & Buffers

- Screening is required between incompatible land uses.
- Landscaped buffers must be at least 10 feet wide along property boundaries, where noted on the approved site plan.

8. Prohibited Materials

- Artificial plants or turf
- Gravel as the sole groundcover
- No planting within public utility easements without written approval

9. Submission Requirements

1. Scaled landscape plan indicating location and type of plant materials
2. Plant list with species, quantity, and size
3. Maintenance schedule

10. Approval & Enforcement

Final approval is contingent upon site inspection. Non-compliance may result in penalties or withholding of occupancy permits until standards are met.