



Replacement Tree Guideline

No.: TREE-10

Date: 2012-12-18

Revised: 2025-08-20

Purpose:

To assist property owners and builders in providing and planting appropriate replacement trees required as a condition of tree removal permit approval under [Tree Protection Bylaw 8057](#).

Where replacement tree requirements are identified as a condition of a valid **development related** tree removal permit, **planting must be completed prior to final building inspection/occupancy**.

Note: Non-development Tree Permit issued on adjacent/adjoining properties due to construction on neighbouring property: same requirements.

Where replacement tree requirements are identified as a condition of a valid non-development tree removal permit, planting must be completed within one year of obtaining the permit.

Inspection of the replacement tree is required and the applicant must contact a Tree Preservation Official for an inspection of the tree (call 604-247-4684 or 604-276-4158).

Requirements (unless otherwise noted on the permit):

- To be planted on the same lot as the tree removal.
- Should be located a minimum 1.5 m (5 ft.) from a property line.
- Not planted directly under BC Hydro power lines.

When replacement trees are required as a condition of a **Non-Development Tree Removal Permit**, the following minimum size (at the time of planting) is required:

- Minimum 6 cm (2.5 in.) caliper (diameter of the trunk measured at 15 cm (5.9 in.) above the ground) for a deciduous tree.
- Minimum height of 3.5 m (11.5 ft.) for a coniferous tree.

When replacement trees are required as a condition of a **Building related Tree Removal Permit or Development Permit**, the following minimum size (at the time of planting) is required:

- Minimum 8 cm (3 in.) caliper (diameter of the trunk measured at 15 cm (5.9 in.) above the ground) for a deciduous tree.
- Minimum height of 4 m (13 ft.) for a coniferous tree.

Every replacement tree shall be spaced from existing trees and other replacement trees in accordance with the current BCLNA (British Columbia Society of Landscape and Nursery Association) standards. Replacement trees must be planted in a location suitable for its species. Trees will be required to be replaced or relocated if they are not planted in a suitable location.

See guide, **Right Tree in the Right Place** at arborday.org/trees/righttreeandplace/

For a list of acceptable replacement trees, see [Suitable Trees for Replanting \(PL-17\)](#) on our website.

We **DO NOT** accept the following as replacement trees:

- Hedging Cedars
- Palm Trees
- Banana Plants
- Dwarf species or Topiaries
- Trees planted as a hedge or trees planted within an existing hedge

See over →

Penalties:

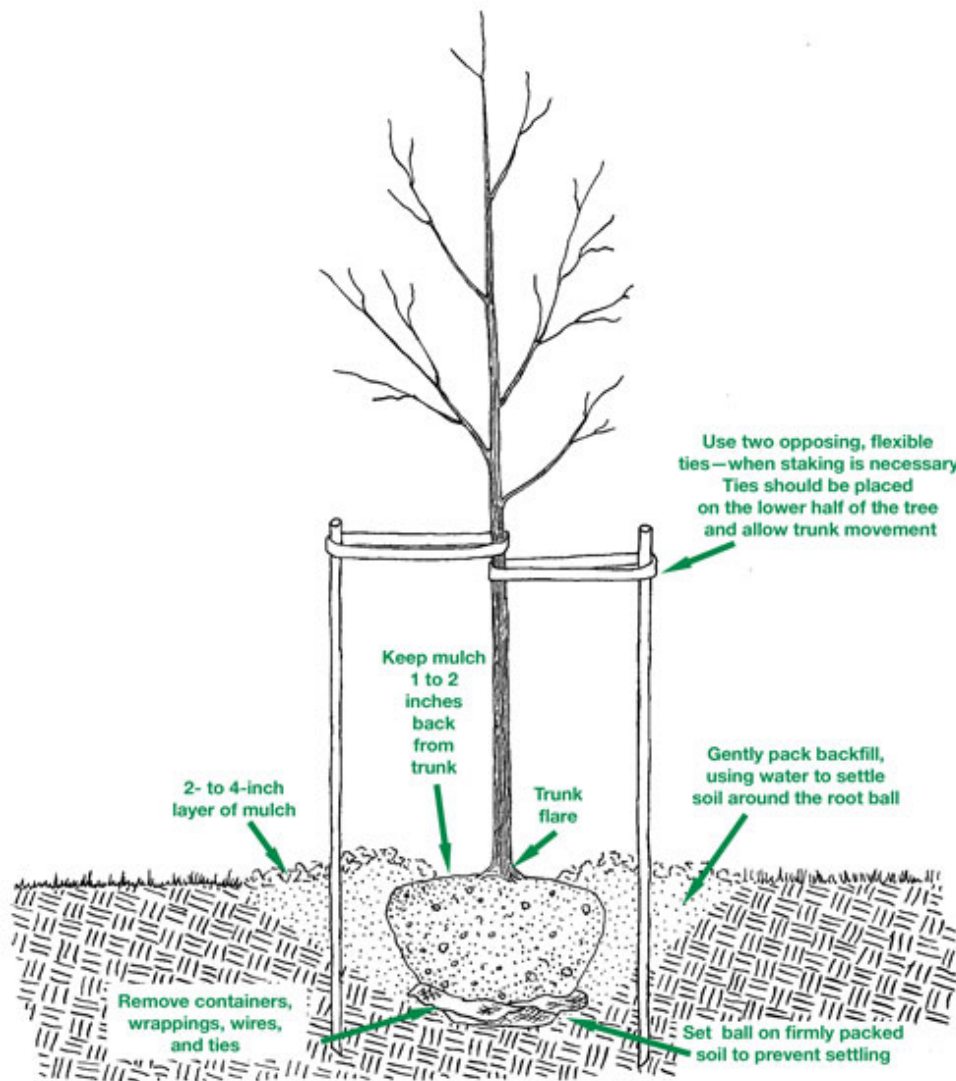
Any person who contravenes or violates any provision of this bylaw can face fines of up to \$750.00 per tree.

Offences include:

- Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of a valid permit.
- Failure to plant and maintain trees in accordance with sound horticultural and arboriculture practices.

For a complete list see Bylaw 7321 Schedule B13.

Tree Planting Guideline:



Additional Sources of Tree Information:

- TreesAreGood.com/TreeOwner/PlantingATree.aspx
- [BC Hydro Planting Near Power Lines](#)

Questions:

Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions concerning this bulletin, please reference the bulletin number and email treeprotection@richmond.ca or call 604-247-4684.

The [Tree Protection Bylaw 8057](#) is available in its entirety at the City of Richmond website, or for a fee from Richmond City Hall.