



# MEMORANDUM

## ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY



### TREE PLANTING POLICY

**SUBJECT: TREE PLANTING POLICY**

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#### 1. PURPOSE

To provide direction and a formalized process anytime staff, sponsors, partners or user-groups are requesting trees to be planted on County of Erie Park, Recreation & Forestry Department Property.

#### 2. SCOPE

This process will be the standard that will be used and referred to any time trees are being planted on Erie County Park Property.

#### 3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 **Caliper** – Measurement taken six inches above ground level for field grown stock and from the soil line for container grown stock, which should be at or near the top of the root flare, and six inches above the root flare for bare root plants (ANSI Z60.1 American Standard for Nursery Stock)
- 3.2 **International Society of Arboriculture (I.S.A.)** – Group that promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees

#### 4. REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 The following list of requirements will be utilized as the preferred parameters so as to provide the highest survival rate for trees being planted
- 4.1.2 **Irrigation** – Tree watering bags are recommended for the first two growing seasons.
- 4.1.3 **Season** – Typically the County of Erie Park, Recreation & Forestry Department only approves tree plantings to take place during the optimal planting window from October 15<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>. All requests for tree plantings outside the established window are subject to approval from the County Forester and would have to be of B&B or Container grown stock and transported using tarps or other appropriate fashion that prevents desiccation of the tree crown.

- 4.1.4 **Tree Selection** – The County of Erie acceptable tree species list is contained herein (Addendum #1) and all trees must have a minimum caliper of 1.5” to be planted in a maintained lawn area. Conservation type plantings of smaller caliper will be allowed in Natural Regeneration Areas.
- 4.1.5 **Site Selection** – Must be approved by the Park Superintendent responsible for that specific park location. The Park Superintendent must consult with the County Forester so the site selection matches the “Right Tree, Right Place” Philosophy.
- 4.1.6 **Tree Protection**- A 1-foot diameter welded wire fence cage will be wrapped around the tree to prevent herbivory and damage from Deer rubs.
- 4.1.7 **Tree Planting** – Trees shall be planted in accordance with ANSI A300 (Part 6) Tree Planting and Transplanting Standards.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 **County Forester** – The County Forester will be available to consult and assist the Park Superintendent for their Tree Planting Event, including approving final tree species and layout. As a certified arborist he/she is recommended to be on-site at the time of the tree planting to ensure all planting practices are following the International Society of Arboriculture (I.S.A) and Erie County Parks, Recreation & Forestry Standards.
- 5.2 **Park Superintendent** – The Park Superintendent is responsible for recommending the location and layout of the tree planting locations, approving the site preparation plan for the actual tree planting and coordinating that the County Forester is on-site at time of the actual tree planting.
- 5.3 **Deputy Commissioner of Recreation** – The Deputy Commissioner of Recreation will work with Sponsor(s) or Partner(s) to develop a formal Maintenance Agreement, Volunteer Form / Special Event approval, event day planning, programming, social media and volunteer round-up.

Effective Date: February 2, 2021

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Troy P. Schinzel, Erie County Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Forestry

**Erie County Parks Recommended Tree List**

**Top 50 Species**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
Abies balsamea	Balsam Fir
Acer nigrum	Black Maple
Acer pensylvanicum	Striped Maple
Acer rubrum	Red Maple
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple
Acer spicatum	Mountain Maple
Amelanchier arborea	Downy Serviceberry
Amelanchier laevis	Smooth Serviceberry
Asimina triloba	Pawpaw
Betula alleghaniensis	Yellow Birch
Betula lenta	Black Birch, Sweet Birch
Betula populifolia	Gray Birch
Carpinus caroliniana	Ironwood, American Hornbeam
Carya cordiformis	Bitternut Hickory
Carya glabra	Pignut Hickory
Carya laciniosa	Shellbark Hickory
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory
Carya tomentosa	Mockernut Hickory
Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
Cornus alternifolia	Pagoda dogwood
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar
Larix laricina	Tamarack, Eastern Larch
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree
Magnolia acuminata	Cucumber Magnolia
Morus rubra	Red Mulberry
Nyssa sylvatica	Blackgum
Ostrya virginiana	Hop Hornbeam, Ironwood
Picea glauca	White Spruce
Pinus strobus	White Pine
Platanus x acerifolia	London Plantree
Platanus occidentalis	Eastern Sycamore
Prunus pensylvanica	Pin Cherry
Prunus serotina	Black Cherry
Quercus alba	White Oak
Quercus bicolor	Swamp White Oak
Quercus macrocarpa	Bur Oak

Quercus montana	Chestnut Oak
Quercus muehlenbergii	Chinquapin Oak
Quercus palustris	Pin Oak
Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak
Quercus shumardii	Shumard's Oak
Salix nigra	Black Willow
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras
Thuja occidentalis	Arborvitae, Northern White Cedar
Tilia americana	American Basswood
Tsuga canadensis	Eastern Hemlock
Ulmus americana	American Elm