



Construction Services Division

1400 N. Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33607
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www.tampagov.net/permits

Erosion and Sediment Control and Tree Protection

POLICY No. 2004 - 05: Erosion and Sediment Control and Tree protection

REFERENCE: City of Tampa Code Chapter 13, Landscaping, Tree Removal and Site Clearing - Chapter 21, Stormwater

PURPOSE: To ensure compliance with the above codes as they relate to new development, to protect the environment from the effects of erosion, and to prevent damage to trees on the development and adjacent properties.

BACKGROUND:

With more awareness now being placed on site issues, we are compelled to more strictly enforce the requirements of the Chapter 13 and Chapter 21 (the Site codes). It is important that we monitor job sites to verify that items such as tree barricades and silt fences are installed correctly and maintained in place for the duration of the construction activity. We are audited each year by the State of Florida to make sure that we are abiding by the requirements of our NPDES permit.

STATEMENT:

Chapter 13 is intended to protect trees, wetlands, and natural resources by regulating the trimming or removal of trees, site clearing, landscaping, tree planting, and irrigation in the City of Tampa. Chapter 21 is intended to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public through the administration and regulation of earthwork and drainage. Consistency in the inspection process will result in better public understanding of and compliance with the Codes.

PROCEDURE:

Each development shall have a site plan posted. It is the responsibility of the inspector to verify that all safeguards have been installed according to the site plan. Silt fences (Stormwater Technical Standard Sec.III.F) and tree barricades (Chapter 13-164) will be installed according to the site plan or where required. If the inspector determines additional safeguards are necessary it is to be indicated on an ESC form that is left at the site. **All safeguards shall remain in place for the duration of the project.** If conditions warrant, the inspector shall call the contractor of record to inform him that immediate action is required. Tree barricades shall be installed with a clear protective area of **ten** feet from the tree trunk to the closest point of the barricade for protected trees and **twenty** feet for grand trees. These dimensions can only be reduced if the reduction is indicated on the approved site plan. **Silt barriers and tree barricades shall be installed according to the following diagrams and dimensions:**

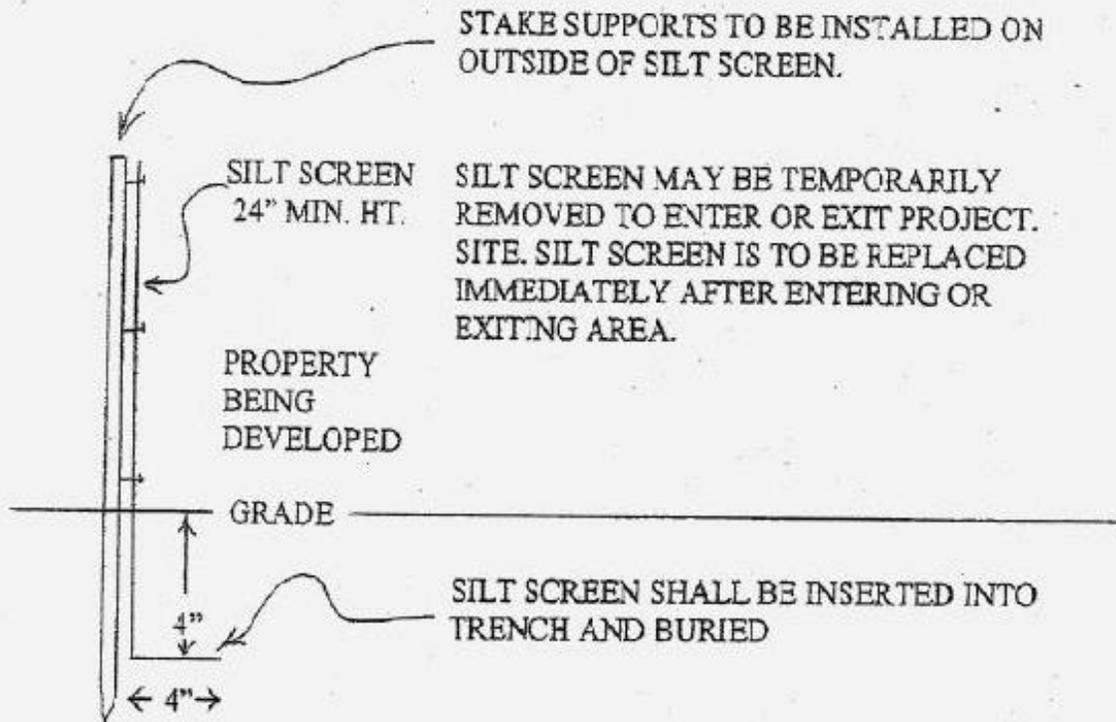


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EROSION, SEDIMENT CONTROL



Silt screen that is installed on the perimeter of a site is assumed to be required and must be properly installed. The proper installation requires trenching the material into the ground.

Silt screen is only effective with sheet flow of water. It slows the flow and allows sediment in the water to settle out and be retained on the property. Silt screen is not required where sheet flow cannot occur, such as: the upslope side of a property, across twenty (20') feet of grass, or where flow is blocked by walls, etc.

To be used as tree barricades, silt screen must be attached to stakes that raise the height of the material to three (3') feet above existing grade.

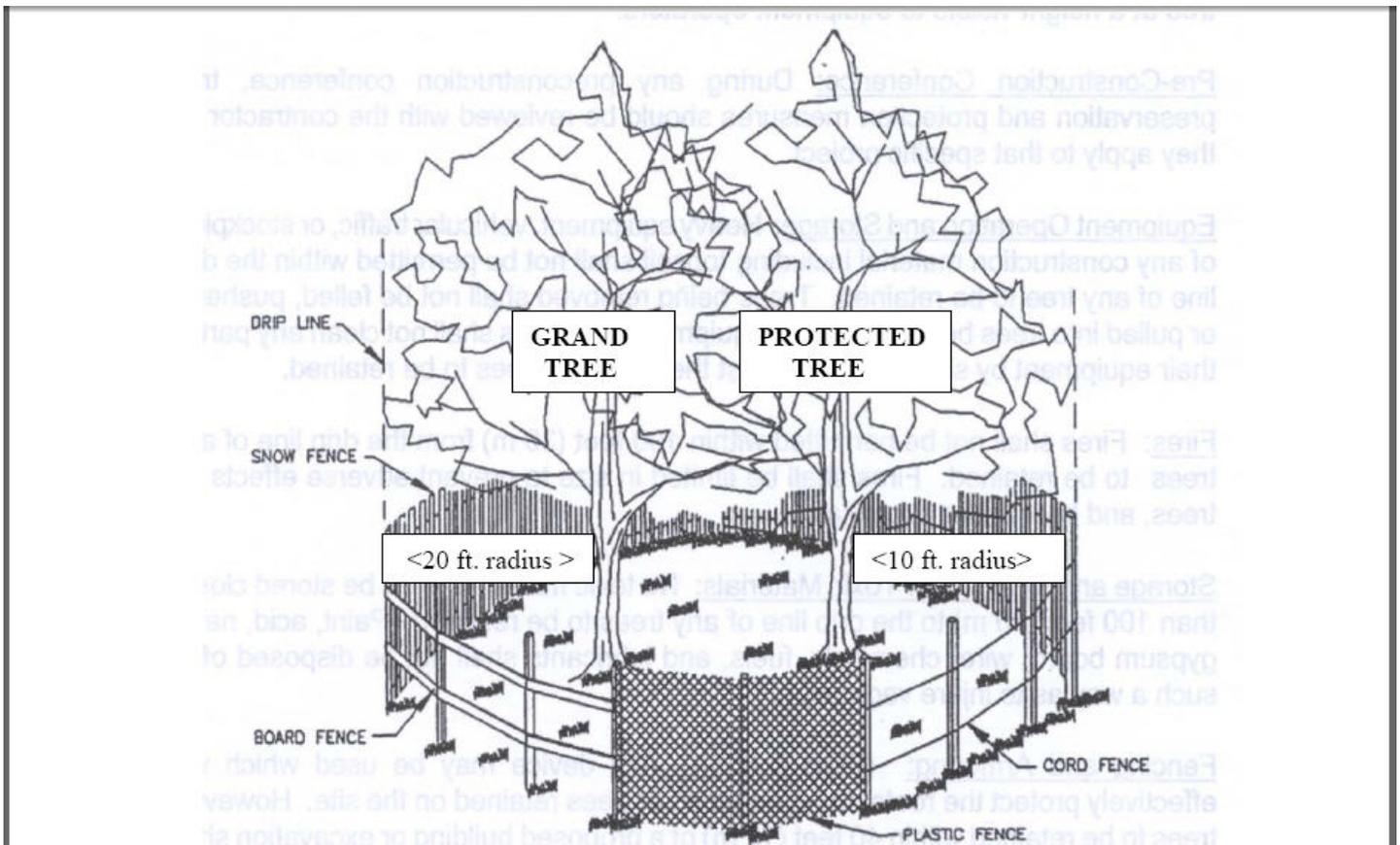
It is the responsibility of all inspectors to conduct a visual inspection of the silt barriers as part of their normal inspection procedure. Each inspector shall be responsible for the completion of an Erosion and Sediment (ESC) form and enforcement of all environmental safeguards on all projects they visit.



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Grand Tree:

Root protection zone must have a radius of **20** feet from the tree trunk to the edge of the barricade. Be aware that in some cases the Site Review department has allowed root pruning and a closer distance than the required 20 feet. **Always check the approved site plan for specific information.** Root pruning or elevated slabs will always be shown on the site plan.

Protected Tree:

Root protection zone must have a radius of **10** feet from the tree trunk to the edge of the barricade. Otherwise the protection requirements are the same as for Grand trees.

Barricades must be 3' in height and may be constructed of any substantial material that will provide protection from construction activity. Supports shall be spaced from 4' to 6' apart.