

Article X – Landscape & Tree Preservation Regulations



Why amend now?



Driving Interests

- City Council
 - Quality of Life Committee 2010
 - Quality of Life Committee 2011
- 'Water-wise' Landscaping-Water Conservation Strategic Plan - Dallas Water Utilities
- Irrigation ordinance
- Green Building ordinance
- iSWM criteria manual for construction



- forwardDallas! Comprehensive Plan
 - Core Value: Healthy Environment
 - Ideal: The city's natural resources are conserved and protected for current and future generations.
 - Initiative: Ensure environmental sustainability.
 - Protect Dallas water quality and watersheds
 - Increase the urban tree canopy
 - Improve air quality
 - Improve energy efficiency
 - Protecting and enhancing open space
 - Provide access to parks, open spaces and recreation.



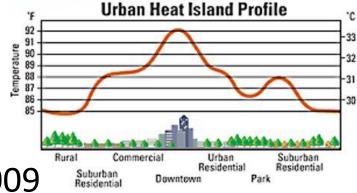
- Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (UFAC)
 - Initiated by City Council December, 2005.
 - Members appointed by mayor based on recommendations of committee and chair.
 - Tree and design professionals, volunteer citizens and advisors, and non-voting staff liaisons.
 - Meetings are open to the public.

Driving Interests (cont.)

Urban Forest Advisory Committee

- General mission
 - "The Urban Forest Advisory Committee will serve in an advisory capacity on matters of environmental stewardship, specifically concerning the care and planting of trees and the urban forest by advocating sound arboricultural and urban forest management practices.
 - The committee will provide proactive leadership for development of public policy and serve to educate citizens of Dallas regarding the numerous environmental, recreational, social and aesthetic benefits of a thriving urban forest.
 - The committee will be authorized to study, plan, advise, report and make recommendations on plans, programs or city codes which the Council or Park and Recreation Board determines necessary or advisable for the care, conservation, planting, pruning, removal or disposition of trees citywide."

- Local Studies
 - HARC Heat Island Study 2009



- Texas Trees Foundation 'State of the Urban Forest' comprehensive study is to be released soon.
 - 14.7 million trees valued at \$9 billion.
 - The city's average tree canopy (including the Great Trinity Forest) is 28.7%.

- New research and technology
 - Urban forest research and technologies
 - Advances in scientific research in the relationship of the trees to the public health and quality of life.
 - Research in healthy tree growth requirements and their soil volume demands.
 - Technology advances for tree root growth in high density pedestrian environments (structural soils, suspended pavement systems).





- New Industry Standards
 - Best management practices
 - Development and implementation of generally accepted industry standards and best management practices for worker safety, and for tree pruning, planting and transplanting, tree risk assessment, soil management, construction site management, and other practices (ANSI A300).

- Public Interest
 - General interests of the development community
 - General interests of the conservation community
 - Professionals in tree services and land design



Article X – Landscape & Tree Preservation Regulations



Overview-Article X



Depth in feet

10.100 IN GENERAL

- .101 Definitions
- .102 Purpose
- .103 Acceptable Plant Material
- .104 Planting Area Requirements
- .105 Protection of Planting Areas
- .106 Irrigation Requirements
- .107 Planters allowed
- .108 General Maintenance
- .109 References
- .110 Special Exceptions



10.120 LANDSCAPING

- .121 Application
- .122 Artificial Lot Determination
- .123 Landscape Plan Submission
- .124 Landscape Plan Review
- .125 Mandatory Landscape Requirements
- .126 Design Standards
- .127 When landscape must be completed
- .128 Enforcement by Building Official



10.130 TREE PRESERVATION, REMOVAL, AND REPLACEMENT

- .131 Application
- .132 Tree Removal Applications
- .133 Reserved
- .134 Replacement of Removed or Seriously Injured Trees
- .135 Alternative Methods of Compliance with Tree Replacement Requirements
- .136 Preservation of Protected Trees During Construction or Other
 - Disturbance
- .137 Violation of this Division
- .138 Appeals
- .139 Fines

10.140 Criminal Responsibility, and Defenses to Prosecution





Article X – Landscape & Tree Preservation Regulations



10.102 - Purpose



"The process of development with its alteration of the natural topography, vegetation, and creation of impervious cover can have a negative effect on the ecological balance of an area by causing increases in air temperatures and accelerating the processes of runoff, erosion and sedimentation. The economic base of the city can and should be protected through the preservation and enhancement of the unique natural beauty, environment, and vegetative space in this area. Recognizing that the general objectives of this article are to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, the city council further declares that this article is adopted for the following specific purposes:"

Effects of development.

"The process of development with its alteration of the natural topography, vegetation, and creation of impervious cover can have a negative effect on the ecological balance of an area by causing increases in air temperatures and accelerating the processes of runoff, erosion and sedimentation.

Economic base.

... The economic base of the city can and should be protected through the preservation and enhancement of the unique natural beauty, environment, and vegetative space in this area.

General objectives

... Recognizing that the general objectives of this article are to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, the city council further declares that this article is adopted for the following specific purposes:

- 1) To aid in stabilizing the environment's ecological balance by contributing to the processes of
 - air purification,
 - oxygen regeneration,
 - ground-water recharge, and
 - storm water runoff retardation,

while at the same time aiding in noise, glare,







2) To provide visual buffering between land uses of differing character to alleviate the harshness of urban life.



3) To enhance the beautification of the city.



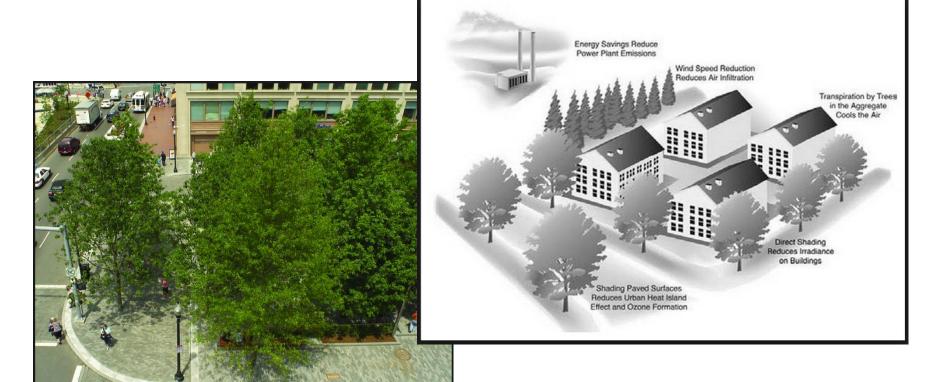
4) To enhance and safeguard property values and to protect public and private

investment.





5) To conserve energy.



6) To provide habitat for wildlife.



7) To encourage the preservation of large trees which, once removed, can be replaced only after generations.





This specific purpose was introduced in 1994 with the tree ordinance. The first six specific purposes originated with the 1986 landscape ordinance.

For Consideration:

UFAC proposed amendments to PURPOSE

- Manage the urban forest for the conservation of all natural resources.
- Recognize trees and the urban forest as part of the city's natural infrastructure.
- Promote the understanding of a responsible land use ethic.
- Enhance the quality of life for future generations.

Additional Considerations

- Water-wise landscaping
- To conserve water
- To promote native and drought-adaptive noninvasive vegetation that thrive on natural rainfall after the plant establishment.
- To promote efficient irrigation.