

Selecting the Right Tree for the Right Location ...and how to properly plant that tree!

Environmental Factors to Consider:

- Minimum temperature the tree will tolerate
 - Hardiness Zone Maps
- Moisture requirements
 - Irrigated lawn area? Dryland area?
- Light requirements
 - Shade tolerance of the species
- Pests
 - Avoid species that are problematic
- Soil type
 - Soil depth, structure (sand, clay), pH
- Air Pollution
 - Salt tolerance, where deicers are used

Tree Factors to Consider:

•The Tree's Purpose

•Shade

- Plant trees where you want the shadow to be during the hottest time of the year, and the time of day you desire shade.

•Aesthetics

- Never plant trees where it will split your lot or view into equal halves.
- Use your trees to enhance the house and lot (framing, background, separate spaces, provide space enclosure)
- Accent plantings (form, shape, size, color, texture). The more of these 4 characteristics, the stronger the emphasis or contrast.

•Windbreaks and Screens

- Low branching conifers are most effective for screening unsightly areas.
- Noise is best screened by tall densely planted trees with broad leaves.
- Dust filtration with a combination of the two.
- Windbreaks also most effective with a combination of the two in a dense, step-like arrangement.
- On south and east sides use deciduous species (allows incoming solar radiation in the winter)

•Boundaries

- Trees can help delineate your property.
- Small, narrow-crowned species will do the job while not invading your neighbor's space.

•Size and Location

- Available space is the most overlooked or misunderstood factor when selecting a tree.
- Before planting, know what the tree will look like as it nears maturity (crown height, crown spread, root space).
- Size and Location problems that can be prevented through proper selection:
 - Lifting walks
 - Damage to drainage pipes/utilities
 - Growing into wires and eaves
 - Shading of gardens
 - Ruining the shape of nearby trees
 - Blocking of windows or scenic views
 - Interfering with outdoor lighting
 - Covering or blocking of chimneys
 - Blocking solar collectors, satellite dishes

•Crown Form or Shape

- Shape is another clue to how well a tree will fit the space you have available, what problems might occur, and how well it will help you meet the goals you have for you property.

•Crown Form or Shape

- Round – White Oak
- Oval – Sugar Maple
- Columnar – Fastigiate oaks, hornbeams, spruce
- V-Shaped – Hackberry
- Pyramidal – Skyline Locust

Selecting Your Tree:



**BARE ROOT
SEEDLINGS**

Roots should be moist and fibrous.

Deciduous seedlings should have roots about equal to the stem length.



**CONTAINERIZED
SEEDLINGS**

Soil plug should be moist and firm

Avoid tall, spindly tops. Well developed roots are more important.

Selecting Your Tree:



(B & B) BALLED AND BURLAPPED

Root ball should be firm to the touch, especially near the trunk.

Root ball should be adequate for the tree's size.



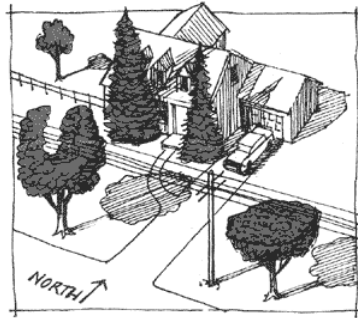
POTTED

Pot should not contain large, circling roots.

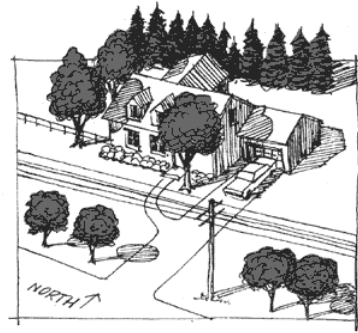
Pruned roots cut cleanly, none wider than a finger.

Soil and roots joined tightly.

Tree Placement:

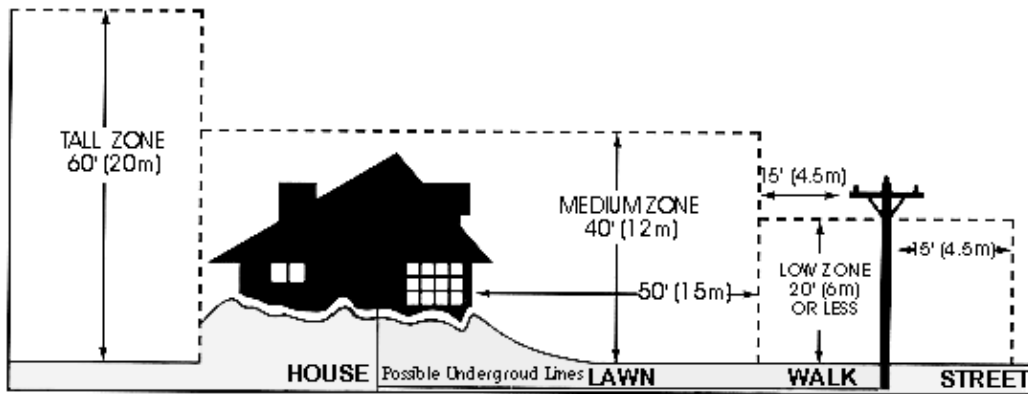


Wrong

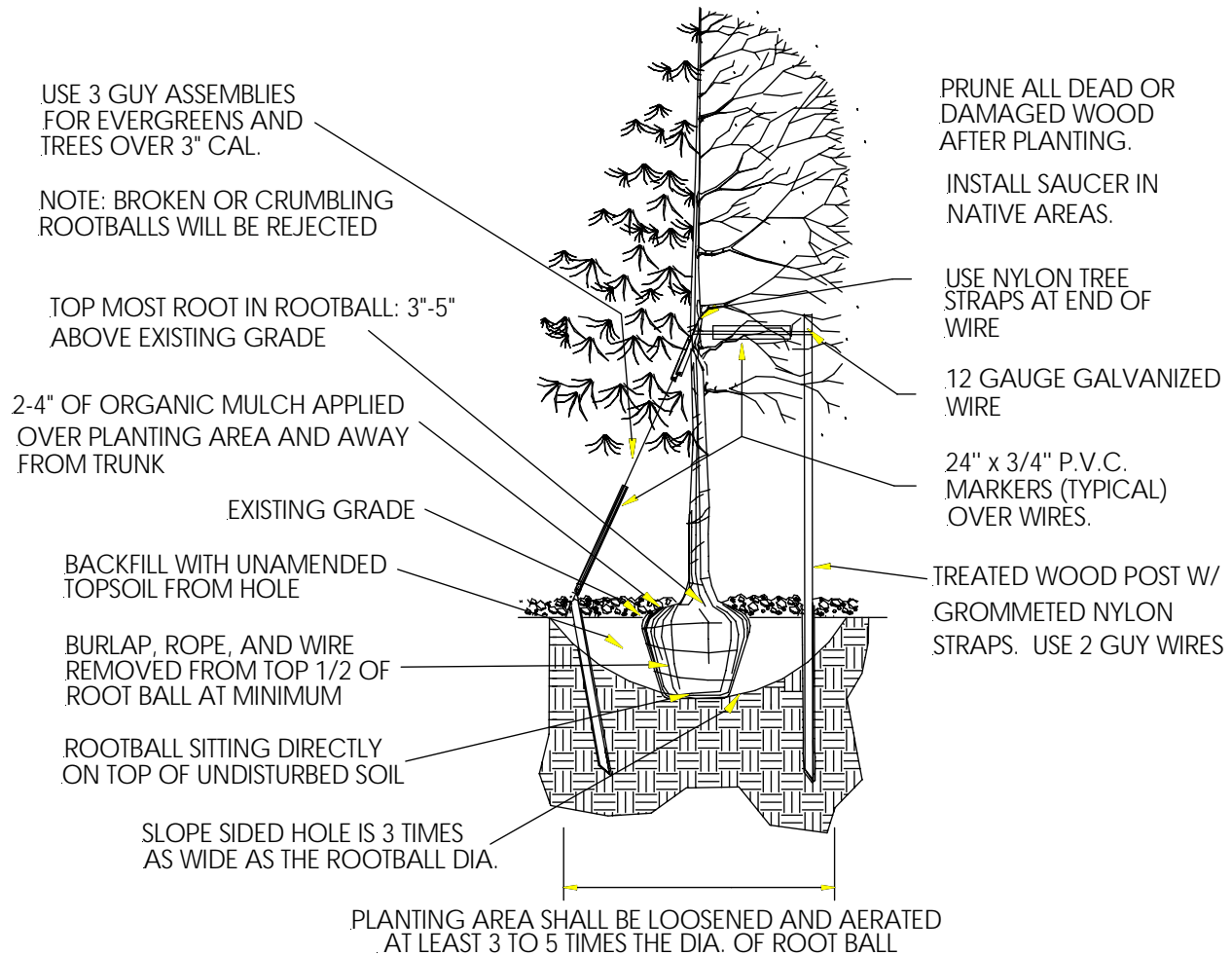


Right

Tree Placement:

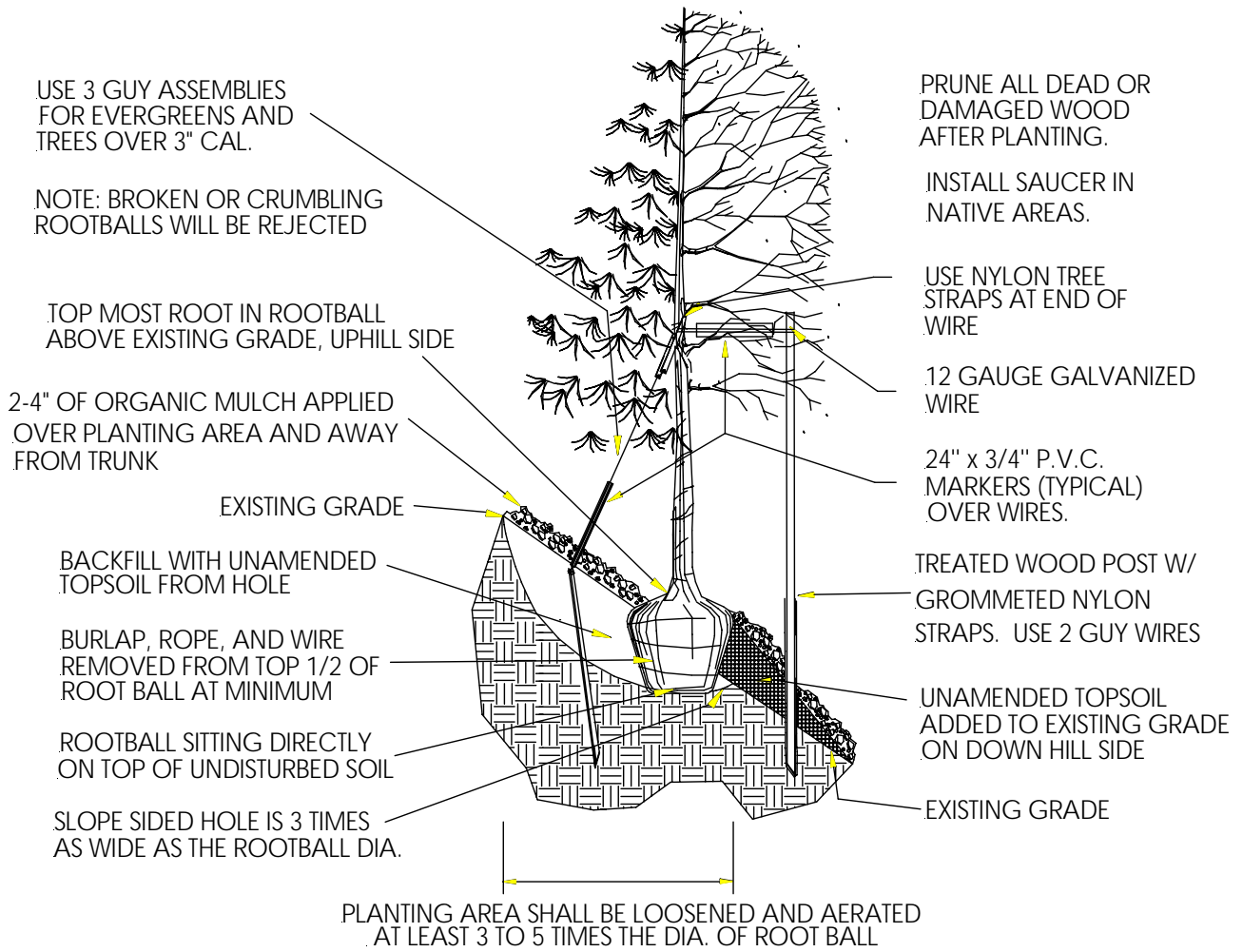


TOWN OF PARKER PLANTING STANDARDS



- Excavate planting holes with sloping sides. Do not disturb soil at bottom of planting holes, but do score the sides of the planting hole. Make excavations at least three times as wide as the root ball diameter and less (three to five inches) than the distance from the top most root in the root ball and the bottom of the root ball. The planting area shall be loosened and aerated at least three to five times the diameter of the root ball. Backfill shall consist of existing on site soil – no amendments shall be used unless otherwise specified.
- Trees shall be planted with the top most root in the root ball 3" to 5" higher than the finished landscape grade. This includes trees that are set on slopes (see slope planting detail). Set root ball on undisturbed soil. Trees where the trunk flare is not visible shall be rejected. Do not cover the root ball with soil.
- Cut off bottom $\frac{1}{3}$ of wire basket before placing tree in hole, cut off remainder of basket after tree is set in hole, remove basket completely where possible. At a minimum, the top $\frac{1}{2}$ of the burlap and basket shall be removed. Remove all nylon ties, twine, rope and burlap as possible. Remove unnecessary packing material.
- Form soil into a 3" to 5" tall watering ring (saucer) around planting area. This is not necessary in irrigated turf areas. Apply 3" to 4" depth of specified mulch inside watering ring.
- Staking and guying of trees is optional in most planting situations. In areas of extreme winds, or on steep slopes, staking may be necessary to stabilize trees. Staking and guying must be removed within 1 year or less of planting date.
- Tree wrap is *not* to be used on any new plantings, except in late fall planting situations, and only then after consultation with the Town Arborist.

TOWN OF PARKER TREE PLANTING DETAIL – SLOPES



TOWN OF PARKER PLANTING DETAIL – SHRUBS

