

Westminster Forestry Specifications for Acceptance of Nursery Trees

- I. All trees shall be true to type as ordered or shown on plans and shall be individually tagged by species and cultivar (variety).
- II. All trees shall be healthy, have a form typical for the species or cultivar, be well-rooted, and be properly trained (see section III through VI).
- III. All trees shall comply with Federal and State laws requiring inspection for plant diseases and pest infestations. Inspection certificates required by law shall be presented upon request of the City.
- IV. Trunk and main stems shall be free of mechanical damage.
- V. The root ball of all trees shall be moist throughout and the crown shall show no signs of moisture stress.
- VI. Tree Crown:
 - A. Crown has a single, straight trunk that has not been headed or that could be pruned to a leader; no double leaders or vigorous, upright branches competing with the leader.
 1. Potential lateral scaffolds.
 - a. Small-growing trees: At least 2 inches apart vertically, which could be trained in the landscape to 3 to 7 branches 4 inches or more apart vertically. Large-growing trees: At least 6 inches apart vertically, which could be trained in the landscape to 5 to 9 branches 18 inches apart vertically.
 - b. Radially and vertically distributed around the trunk to form a symmetrical crown.
 - c. Not more than $\frac{2}{3}$'s the diameter of the trunk, measured one inch above the branch.
 - d. Free of included bark in attachments.
 2. No laterals below the lowest potential scaffold should be larger than $\frac{1}{4}$ th the trunk diameter at point of attachment.
 3. Each tree must be able to comply with A1 and A2 above without having or having had to remove, now or within the previous growing season, more than 25 percent of the branches of size similar to or larger than those of the potential scaffold branches.
 - B. The minimum acceptable length of the most recent season's shoots shall be of an acceptable level, and trees with marginal growth will be rejected.
 - C. It is desirable to have small ($< \frac{1}{4}$ the diameter of the trunk) temporary branches along the trunk below the scaffolds.
- VII. Roots: container or balled in burlap regardless of species or mature size.
 - A. Tree is free of roots visibly circling the trunk, and free of "knees" (roots) protruding above the soil.
 - B. Container grown trees shall be free of circling roots larger than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter.
 - C. Tree shall remain upright when untied from support stakes.
 - D. Balled in burlap trees shall be free of girdling roots, and circling roots shall not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter within 2 inches of the trunk (soil will need to be removed from the soil ball for this inspection).
 - E. Trees shall be inspected to insure proper planting depth. A first order major root shall be located no deeper than 2 inches below the top grade of the ball.
- VIII. In case the sample trees inspected are found to be defective, the buyer reserves the right to reject the entire lot or lots of trees represented by the defective samples.
- IX. Vendor will notify the City at least 10 days prior to the actual shipment date