

plant material standards

All plant species shall be appropriate for the climate and location being planted. All plant material shall be commercially produced and meet the minimum standards recognized by landscape professionals. To reduce the threat and impact of plant disease, multiple plant types and species shall be utilized on each site. No single tree or shrub species shall make up more than 15% of the total tree or shrub species on a site.

Over-story Tree – a deciduous tree with one vertical stem or trunk which begins branching at a height of six feet or more and has a distinct crown that reaches a mature height of at least 30 feet.

Under-story Tree – a deciduous tree, often an ornamental type tree, that reaches a mature height of less than 30 feet.

All plant sizes shall meet the following size requirements:

- Over-story Trees – minimum 2.5-inch caliper
- Under-story Trees – minimum 1.5-inch caliper
- Evergreen or Coniferous Trees – minimum six (6) feet in height
- Shrubs – minimum three (3) gallon container
- Prairie Plantings – Must use at least three (3), but no more than five (5) varieties of short grass prairie species native to Iowa. Can be combined with similar height native wildflowers but is limited to 10 additional species per development.

The following trees are prohibited:

- All Ash tree varieties
- Birch, White/Paper
- Boxelder
- Cottonwood
- Siberian and Chinese Elms
- Maple, Silver
- Pear (all species/cultivars)
- Poplar (all species/cultivars)
- Russian and Autumn Olive
- Trees with thorns
- Willow

