

Tree Planting Policy – Spacing Requirements

To maintain the health of landscaping, prevent overcrowding, and protect community aesthetics, the following tree planting standards apply:

1. Minimum Spacing Based on Mature Width

- Trees / shrubs must be planted so that their **canopies will not overlap when fully mature**.
- The required minimum distance between tree trunks shall be **equal to or greater than the mature canopy spread** of the species being planted.
 - *Example:* If one tree species has a mature canopy width of 15' - 20' and the second tree species has a mature canopy width of 8' - 10' the minimum spacing between the two trunks should be at least 15' $(20+10)/2$.

2. Approved Reference for Mature Size

- The mature width (canopy spread) will be determined using authoritative sources such as:
 - USDA Plant Database
 - State Cooperative Extension Service
 - Nursery industry standards

3. Prohibited Practices

- Planting trees in rows, clusters, or patterns that will cause the mature canopies to overlap is prohibited.
- Trees may not be planted in a manner that impedes pedestrian or vehicle clearance as defined by community regulations.

4. HOA Review and Approval

- All tree planting must receive prior approval from the HOA Board via submission and approval of an Exterior Alteration Request form.
- Requests should include:
 - Species name and variety
 - Expected mature width
 - Proposed planting location