

# Protect Saskatoon Trees

#### **Tree Protection Required When Working Near City Trees**

Equipment and vehicles can injure tree trunks, break branches, tear bark, cause soil compaction or damage roots.

If you are planning any work near a City tree you are responsible for providing tree protection measures as determined by the Urban Forestry Section of the Parks Branch.

Any unauthorized excavation, removal, relocation, pruning, or damage of City trees may result in a fine or penalty as per City Council Policy #C09-011. Damage to City trees will be assessed on the value of the plant material as well as the cost of any removal or repairs.

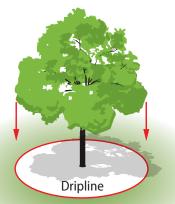
**Plan Ahead** - Contact Urban Forestry at **306-986-0836** before you proceed with any construction near City trees.

## When working near City trees the required protective measures include the following:

#### **Protect the tree roots**

Severing tree roots, compacting soil, or changing the grade in the critical root zone of a tree can impact both the health and stability of a tree.

- You will only be permitted to excavate on one side of a tree.
- If construction takes place when soil moisture levels are high, it increases compaction within the drip zone.
- All exposed roots must be pruned with a sharp pruning tool to provide a clean severance of the root.
- Exposed roots must be protected from drying during construction and exposed roots must be backfilled as soon as possible.
- To prevent compaction 150mm (6") of woodchip mulch must be placed on any area under the drip line of a protected tree if it is not fenced off.



#### **Provide Protective Fencing**

The best way to avoid tree damage at construction sites is to set up a protective fence to act as a physical barrier to keep vehicles, equipment, and materials away from trees.

### Protective fencing must be constructed of either:

 a) Solid wood frame with orange snow fencing securely stapled to the outside;

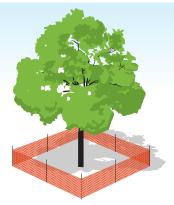
or

b) Snow fencing fastened securely to metal stakes spaced no more than 1 meter apart.

#### Protective fencing must:

- Be 1.2 meters high measured from the ground;
- Not interfere with access to fire hydrants or obscure intersections or traffic signage;
- Be sturdy with vertical posts driven firmly into the ground to keep it in place;
- Stay in good repair for the duration of the demolition or construction project.

For safety reasons an underground utility check must be completed before installing the fence to ensure you do not hit any buried utilities.



**Protective Fencing** 

Construction of the protective fencing will be inspected and must be acceptable to Urban Forestry.

#### Tree Protection Zone Radius Requirements

(measured from base of tree)

Trunk Diameter @ 1.2m	Good Protection	Better Protection
1 – 20 cm	2.0 m	3.0 m
21 – 50 cm	2.5 m	4.5 m
50+ cm	3.5 m	6.5 m



http://www.saskatoon.ca/go/forestry