

## CHAPTER 132 LANDSCAPING

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**132.110. Intent and Purpose.** The intent and purpose of this Chapter is to provide a process and definable standards for landscaping, buffering, and screening of land use within Salem in order to preserve the livability of the community, aesthetically and environmentally; and to safeguard and enhance property values and protect public and private investment, through the:

- (a) Use of plant materials to provide buffering and screening to mitigate the harmful effects of the sun, wind, rain, noise, lack of privacy, and differing adjacent uses;
- (b) Use of plant materials to define spaces, articulate the uses of specific areas, and unify elements of the site;
- (c) Encouragement of conservation of significant plant materials, including existing trees, and other natural resources, whenever possible; and
- (d) Maintenance of landscape areas. (Ord No. 89-92)

**132.120. Definitions.**

- (a) **Berm:** A man-made earthen mound no less than three feet in height from the existing grade and constructed with no steeper than a 3:1 slope on all sides. The berm shall be planted with plant materials to prevent erosion and shall not alter natural drainage flows from abutting properties.
- (b) **Bufferyard:** A unit of land together with a landscaped area of specified plantings and screening between land uses of differing character to eliminate or minimize potential conflicts or nuisances and provide a more aesthetic environment.
- (c) **Caliper:** The diameter of the trunk measured one foot above ground level. If a tree is of a multi-trunk variety, the caliper of the tree is the average caliper of all of its trunks.
- (d) **Evergreen tree or shrub:** A tree or shrub of a species which normally retains its leaves throughout the year.
- (e) **Ground cover:** Living plant species which normally reach a height of less than three feet upon maturity, installed in such a manner so as to form a continuous cover over the ground.
- (f) **Landscaping:** A combination of living plants, such as trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, flowers and grass; natural features such as streams, wetlands, rocks, stone, bark chips and shavings; and structural features, including but not limited to, fountains, reflecting pools, outdoor art work, screen walls, fences, and benches.
- (g) **Lawns:** Lawns shall consist of grasses of acceptable mix within the local landscape industry.
- (h) **Native Vegetation:** Plant species with a geographic distribution indigenous to all or part of the state of Oregon.

- (i) **Open space:** Land designated to preserve community livability, significant plant materials and natural resources.
- (j) **Ornamental tree:** A relatively low growing, 15 to 20-foot tall deciduous or evergreen tree which usually provides color due to its fruit (berries), flowers or leaves.
- (k) **Required yard:** Yard specified in the underlying zone for building and parking lot setbacks adjacent to streets and front, side and rear lot lines.
- (l) **Right-of-way:** A public easement containing roadways, medians and boulevards, and sidewalks.
- (m) **Screening:** A method of blocking or reducing that which is unsightly or offensive through the use of plant materials, berms, fences and/or walls, or a combination thereof.
- (n) **Setback:** The distance between a building or structure, including ground-level parking lots or other paved surfaces, and the street line or lot line.
- (o) **Shade tree:** A deciduous (or rarely, an evergreen) tree planted primarily for its high crown of foliage or overhead canopy. A major shade tree at maturity reaches a height of at least 70 feet, and branches no lower than 12 feet above the ground. A minor shade tree reaches a height of at least 40 feet, and branches no lower than 8 feet above the ground.
- (p) **Shrub:** A deciduous or evergreen woody plant, smaller than a tree, which consists of a number of small stems from the ground or small branches near the ground.
- (q) **Significant tree:** A particularly impressive or unusual example of a healthy tree defined by size, shape, age or other special species characteristic such as,
  - (1) Healthy trees over 50' in height; or
  - (2) A group of twelve inch or greater caliper stand of evergreen or non-fruit bearing, hardwood trees; or
  - (3) Rare or endangered species, unusual specimen or mature tree species not normally found in this geographic location; or
  - (4) Heritage trees designated as such by SRC 86.010.
- (r) **Street tree:** A tree planted in proximity to a street in order to provide canopy over the street, to provide shade, and soften the street environment.
- (s) **Vacant lots:** For purposes of this Chapter, a lot is considered vacant or undeveloped if no structure or vehicular surface area lies within 200 feet of its property line; or if the lot is used only for agriculture and contains no residence.
- (t) **Vehicular use area:** An area where motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, trailers, and boats are parked, stored, or displayed for sale. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 116-94)

### 132.130. Applicability.

- (a) The provisions of this Chapter apply to all required landscaping under this zoning code; IN ADDITION, Sections 132.200, Open Space, and 132.210, Street Trees, are applicable to all development.
- (b) Where the construction of or addition to a structure or vehicular or pedestrian use area increases the total area of the lot covered by structures, paving, or both by more than fifty percent,
  - (1) The entire lot shall meet the landscaping requirements of this zoning code; and
  - (2) Bufferyards shall be provided as required in SRC 132.220 if the use, as defined in SRC Table 132-1, of the proposed expansion is of greater impact than the abutting use.
- (c) **Administrative Relief.** When special circumstances or exceptional site characteristics are applicable to the property involved (e.g., topography), the applicant may request a modification (reduction or increase) of the landscaping requirements set forth in this Chapter. Administrative relief of the standard(s), except as otherwise limited by the zoning code (e.g. overlay districts), may be authorized by the Planning Administrator only if the proposed landscaping:
  - (1) Meets the intent of providing a buffer between adjacent uses of differing character;
  - (2) Incorporates the increased retention of significant tree(s);

- (3) Provides protection for wildlife habitat and existing native vegetation and plant materials maintained in a natural state;
- (4) Incorporates elements to maintain solar access or provides for wind protection; or
- (5) Is designed in a manner of expression characteristic of a historical period, nation, or regional area and which relates to the use of the site or the architectural design. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 25-93; Ord No. 22-2000; Ord No. 42-09)

**132.140. Landscape Plan and Irrigation Plan Information.**

(a) All building permit applications for development on lots subject to landscaping requirements shall include the following information on landscape plans:

- (1) Lot dimensions and footprint of structure(s), drawn to scale.
- (2) A legend indicating the linear footage of perimeter yards adjacent to a public street or right-of-way; the linear footage of perimeter yards not adjacent to a public street or right-of-way; the total square footage of the interior area of the parking lot as calculated by Subsection 132.230(d)(3)(C) of this Chapter; total building square footage; and total number of parking spaces.
- (3) The location and size of the plant species, identified by common and botanical names, and expected coverage within five (5) growing seasons
- (4) The type and location of landscaping features other than plant materials, i.e., wetlands, creeks, ponds, sculpture, benches.
- (5) Fence or wall materials, when required as screening by Subsection 132.220 of this Chapter.
- (6) Adjacent land-uses (e.g., whether vacant or occupied). For any residence within 50 feet of the subject site, indicate the building location and its distance from the subject property boundary.
- (7) Location and classification of existing trees greater than four inches caliper. Where the site is heavily wooded, only those trees that will be affected by the proposed development need to be sited accurately. The remaining trees may be shown on the plan in the general area of their distribution.

(b) The irrigation plan shall show the materials, size, and location of all components, including backflow or anti-siphon devices, valves, and irrigation heads. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 25-93)

**132.150. Standards for Landscaping Materials.**

- (a) Upon installation, all plant materials shall be vigorous, well-branched and with healthy, well-furnished root systems, free of disease, insect pests and injuries.
- (b) All shrubs and ground cover shall be of a size upon installation so as to attain 75% ground coverage of the required landscaped yard within five (5) years. (Ord No. 89-92)

**132.160. Installation.**

- (a) Installation of required landscaping shall be performed when sites are being developed, altered or expanded, unless seasonal conditions or temporary site conditions exist which make installation impractical at that time. In such cases, an acceptable performance guarantee covering the value of the landscaping and installation shall be posted with the City as prescribed by Subsection 132.180 of this Chapter.
- (b) All landscaping shall be installed in a sound manner and in conformance to the standards of the American Association of Nurserymen, Inc. (Ord No. 89-92)

**132.170. Maintenance.**

- (a) The owner and tenant shall be jointly and severally responsible for maintaining all landscaping material in good condition so as to present a healthy, neat and orderly appearance. This Chapter shall not supersede care and maintenance requirements of street trees and plant

materials in a public right-of-way as prescribed in SRC Chapter 86; or control and maintenance of plant growth on developed and undeveloped lots as prescribed in SRC 50.705.

(b) Unhealthy or dead plant materials shall be replaced in conformance to the requirements of the originally approved landscape plan. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 8-2000)

**132.180. Compliance/Performance Assurance.**

(a) Failure to install, maintain or protect trees, other plant material, and the irrigation system in accordance with the requirements of this Chapter shall be deemed to be an infraction, subject to enforcement in accordance with SRC 1.070. The property owner and tenant shall be jointly and individually responsible for compliance in all enforcement matters.

(b) Planting and installation of all landscaping shall be inspected and approved by the Planning Administrator prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy; EXCEPT, a Certificate of Occupancy permit may be issued prior to the complete installation of all required landscaping if a performance guarantee equal to 100 percent of the cost of plant materials and labor as determined by the Planning Administrator is filed with the City assuring such installation within twelve months after the Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

(c) A performance guarantee assigned to the City shall consist of a surety bond, cash, certified check, time certificate of deposit, an irrevocable letter of credit, or assignment of savings account in a form approved by the City Attorney and recorded in the deed records of the appropriate county.

(d) If the installation of the required landscaping is not completed within the specified period, the performance guarantee may be used by the City or its designated agent to complete the installation. Upon completion of the installation, any portion of the remaining security deposited with the City shall be returned. The final landscape inspection shall be made prior to any security being returned. Any portions of the plan not installed, not properly installed, or not properly maintained shall cause the inspection to be postponed until the project is completed or cause the security to be used by the City to complete the project. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 22-2000; Ord No. 42-09)

**132.190. Irrigation.** Due to increasing public demand for water and the diminishing supply, economic and efficient water use shall be required. Specific means to achieve conservation of water resources shall be provided as follows:

(a) A permanent underground or drip irrigation system with an approved backflow prevention device shall be required for all landscaped areas; EXCEPT, where existing healthy vegetation has been established for at least two years.

(b) Wherever feasible, sprinkler heads irrigating lawns or other high-water-demand landscape areas shall be circuited so that they are on a separate zone or zones for those irrigating trees, shrubbery or other reduced-water-requirement areas. (Ord No. 89-92)

**132.200. Open Space.**

(a) Areas of designated and significant wetlands shall comply with applicable state and federal environmental regulations and applicable Code requirements.

(b) Where living vegetation has been removed or damaged by the development process, such areas shall be replanted with appropriate plant materials.

(c) Existing vegetation which is used to meet part of the landscape requirements shall meet the opacity, height, and other requirements as specified in other sections, or be supplemented with planted vegetation.

(d) In required yards, all significant trees which the Planning Administrator verifies can be reasonably saved, which will not constitute a safety hazard, shall be retained; EXCEPT, area devoted to vision clearance, as defined in SRC 130.280, and area to be cleared for required roads, utilities, sidewalks, trails, or storm drainage improvements are exempt from this

requirement. If the number of retained significant trees is reduced, then the developer will be responsible for implementing a tree replanting program. The replanting ratio shall be: two new trees for each one significant tree that was removed. The new trees shall be either a shade or evergreen tree with a minimum one and a half inch caliper.

(e) Within the entire development site, a minimum of twenty-five percent of the significant trees, as verified by the Planning Administrator, shall be retained or replanted as follows. If the number of retained significant trees is reduced below that twenty-five percent then the developer will be responsible for implementing a tree replanting program. The replanting ratio shall be: two new trees for each one significant tree that was removed below the twenty-five percent. The new trees shall be either a shade or evergreen tree with a minimum one and a half inch caliper.

(f) Appropriate methods shall be used during construction to protect and preserve retained trees.

(g) Stormwater detention ponds shall be integrated into the landscaping plan, wherever feasible; specifically in areas of significant wildlife habitat. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 42-09)

**132.210. Street Trees.** Development adjacent to public streets shall provide street trees to meet the requirements and specifications of SRC Chapter 86. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 91-99; Ord No. 22-2000; Ord No. 42-09)

**132.220. Bufferyards and Screening.** Bufferyards are a combination of setback and visual buffer designed to separate and protect incompatible uses.

(a) Bufferyards shall be landscaped in accordance with Table 132-1, Buffer Matrix and Table 132-2, Bufferyard and Screening Standards. No buildings, accessways, or parking areas shall be permitted in a bufferyard except where an accessway has been approved by the Public Works Department. Accessways shall not reduce the amount of required plant materials. Utilities, screening, sidewalks, and bikeways are permitted in a bufferyard but shall not reduce the amount of required plant materials.

(b) Yard setbacks and landscaping as required in other sections of this Code, including special overlay districts, may be included within a required bufferyard, unless a greater setback is required, in which case the greater setback shall apply; EXCEPT,

(1) Development in the Central Business (CB) zone is exempt from bufferyard requirements.

(2) Development within the interior of public use zones is exempt from bufferyard requirements.

(c) The following procedure shall be used to determine the type of buffering and screening required between two abutting parcels:

(1) Locate the proposed use and existing abutting use in the appropriate Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) impact group in the Buffer Matrix (Table 132-1).

(2) After determining the impact group, read over and down the appropriate axis in the Buffer Matrix (Table 132-1) to find the Buffer Category signified by the letter A, B, C, D, or E.

(3) Using the applicable Buffer Category (A, B, C, D, or E), consult the Screening and Buffering Standards Table 132-2 to determine the buffering and screening requirements.

(4) As required by the Bufferyard and Screening Standards Table 132-2, fences shall be sight-obscuring fences and walls shall be constructed of masonry, rock, concrete, concrete block or other similar material.

(5) Plant Unit Definition Table 132-3 specifies the plant unit values for plant materials and the minimum size of the plant materials at planting time in order to provide seventy-five (75) percent coverage of the required landscaped yard within five years. A minimum of 40% of the required number of plant units shall be a combination of significant trees, shade trees, evergreen/conifer trees, or ornamental trees.

- (d) Where two or more uses of differing impact as specified in the Buffer Matrix (Table 132-1) are combined in one building, the Buffer Category shall be determined by the use in the heaviest impact category.
- (e) In the event a proposed use is not specifically designated in the Buffer Matrix, Table 132-1, the Planning Administrator shall designate to which group the proposed use is most similar in intensity or environmental impact.
- (f) If the abutting existing use is a "nonconforming use" in the same comprehensive plan designation, then the proposed use shall provide a Category "A" Bufferyard plus a 6 foot fence or wall. (Ord No. 89-92; Ord No. 25-93; Ord No. 116-94)

**132.230. Parking Lot and Vehicular Use Areas.** In addition to the intent and purposes stated in Subsection 132.110, the purpose of establishing landscape standards for parking lots is to provide shade, noise attenuation, reduce glare, modify the rate of storm water runoff, and enhance the visual environment.

- (a) Required parking areas shall be separated from the exterior wall of a structure by a 5-foot wide landscaped strip planted with a minimum of one (1) plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area, or by a 5-foot wide paved pedestrian walkway.
- (b) Wheel stops shall be provided so that vehicle overhangs do not protrude into required landscaped yards or required bufferyards.
- (c) Landscaping standards are established for the following vehicular use areas: (1) when located adjacent to a public street right-of-way; (2) when located along a perimeter property line; and (3) in the vehicular use area interior yard.
- (d) Where required yards are greater than the landscaped strip required by this section of the code, the more restrictive yard shall apply.

**(1) Adjacent to the right-of-way of a public street.** A landscaped strip as described below shall be provided on the property between the vehicular use area and the right-of-way. Street trees as prescribed for arterial streets may count toward meeting the required plant units. The following landscaped strip treatments may be used singly or in combination:

- (A) Provide a minimum 10 foot wide landscaped strip planted with a minimum of 1 plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area (Refer to Table 132-3).
- (B) Provide a berm, the top of which is at least 2-1/2 feet higher than the elevation of the adjacent parking lot pavement. Plant with a minimum of 1 plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area (Refer to Table 132-3).
- (C) Provide a minimum six-foot wide landscaped strip and a minimum three foot grade drop from the right-of-way line to the adjacent parking lot pavement. Plant the strip with a minimum of 1 plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area (Refer to Table 132-3).
- (D) Provide a minimum six-foot wide landscaped strip with a minimum three-foot high brick, stone or finished concrete wall to screen the parking lot. The wall shall be located adjacent to but entirely outside the six foot landscaped strip. Plant the strip with a minimum of 1 plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area (Refer to Table 132-3). The wall shall not infringe upon the vision clearance area as prescribed in SRC 130.280.

**(2) Perimeter yards not adjacent to a public street or right-of-way.** EXCEPT where a bufferyard is required by Subsection 132.220 or a greater setback is prescribed elsewhere in this Code, a minimum five (5) foot wide landscaped strip shall be required between the vehicular use area and the adjacent property line. Plant with a minimum of 1 plant unit per twenty (20) square feet of yard area. (Refer to Table 132-3).

**(3) Interior yard vehicular use areas.**

- (A) EXCEPT for a vehicular area which is used specifically as a utility storage lot, a truck loading area, or open vehicular sales lot, interior parking lot

landscaping is required for any vehicular use area of 12 parking spaces or 5,000 square feet of pavement, whichever is greater;

(B) The minimum amount of required landscaping is based on the total size of the parking lot as follows:

Total area of parking lot	Percent of lot interior which must be landscaped
Less than 50,000 square feet	5%
50,000 square feet and over	8%

(C) For purposes of computing the total interior area of any parking lot, all areas within the perimeter of the parking lot shall be counted, including planting islands, curbed areas, corner areas, parking spaces, and all interior driveways and aisles except those with no parking spaces located on either side. Required perimeter yards, bufferyards and the 5-foot yard around buildings shall not be counted as interior planting area.

(D) Deciduous shade trees shall be planted within all parking lots on the basis of one tree for each 12 parking spaces. The required trees may be clustered in planter bays or islands but shall be located throughout the parking area to divide and break up expanses of paving and long rows of parking spaces and to create a canopy effect.

(E) Planter bays or islands containing trees shall have a minimum planting area of twenty-five (25) square feet, and shall have a minimum width of five feet measured from the back of the curb.

**(d) Parking Garages.** All parking garages shall be required to meet perimeter parking lot landscaping requirements; EXCEPT,

(1) Perimeter landscaping shall not be required for any portion of the parking garage frontage which incorporates ground floor active uses other than parking.

(2) Wherever a parking garage in a commercial, industrial or public use zone abuts a side or rear lot line with no required setback, no perimeter landscaping shall be required. Perimeter landscaping shall be required wherever the parking garage abuts a residential zone, CO zone or street right-of-way.

**(e) Temporary gravel parking lots,** as permitted under SRC 133.220, shall not be exempt from meeting perimeter yard or bufferyard landscaping and screening requirements where abutting residential uses or zones or designated arterial or collector streets; but shall be exempt from interior yard landscaping requirements. (Ord No. 89-92)

**ABUTTING USE**

**Table 132-1  
BUFFER MATRIX**

The letter designations contained in the Table refer to the Buffer Category on Table 132-2, Bufferyard and Screening Standards

<b>PROPOSED USE</b>	Residential Uses	Parking Lots	Minimum Impact	Light Impact	Moderate Impact	Heavy Impact	Vacant Lot (Residential Zone)	Vacant Lot (Commercial, Industrial)
Three or More Dwelling Units per Lot or Parcel	B	B	B	B	C	C	B	C
Parking Lots	B	-	A	A	A	-	B	A
Minimum Impact	B	A	-	A	B	B	B	A
Light Impact (Indoor Activity only)	C	A	A	-	A	B	C	-
Moderate Impact	D	A	B	A	-	B	D	A
Heavy Impact	E	A	C	B	B	-	E	B

Standard Industrial Classifications Grouped by Impact Potential

<b>MINIMUM IMPACT:</b> Any single use or combination of uses classified as Light Impact or Moderate Impact that have a maximum single or aggregate building total square footage of no more than 3,000 gross square feet and that are located on no more than 0.5 acres in land area.	09	(fishing, hunting & trapping)	72	(misc. personal services, e.g. laundry, photo, beauty, funerals)
	43	(U.S. postal services)		
	45	(transportation by air)	73	(business services, except 7353)
	472	(travel agencies & tour operators)	76	(misc. repair services, except 7692, 7694)
	473	(arrangement of freight transportation)	782	(motion picture & video tape distribution)
	48	(communications)	784	(video tape rental)
	50	(wholesale trade - durable goods; except 5093)	791	(dance studios)
	51	(wholesale trade - nondurable goods)	792	(theatrical providers, except 7929)
	52	(bldg/garden materials)	7991	(physical fitness facilities)
	53	(general merchandise)	801, 802, 803, 804	(health service providers)
	54, 56, 57, 59	(apparel, furniture, misc. retail)	805	(nursing & personal care facilities)
	5812	(eating places)	807	(medical & dental labs)
	60, 61	(depository/nondeposit institutions)	808	(home health care services)
01 (agricultural production - crops)	62	(security & commodity services)	809	(misc. health & allied services)
02 (agriculture production livestock & animal specialties)	63 64, 65	(insurance, real estate)	81	(legal services)
07 (agricultural services)	67	(holding/investment companies)	83	(social services, e.g. child day care, residential care, job training)
08 (forestry)	701, 702, 704	(hotels, motels, room & board)		

- 84 (museums, art galleries, except 8422)
- 86 (membership organizations)
- 87 (engineering & management services)
- 89 (services, NEC, e.g. writers & artists)
- 91 (executive, legislative & general government)
- 92 (justice, public order & safety, except 9223)
- 93 (finance, taxation & monetary policy)
- 94, 95, 96 (public programs, e.g. education)
- 972 (international affairs)

**MODERATE IMPACT:** Any single use or combination of uses specified as a Light Impact Use that includes some out-of-doors activity; and any use or combination of uses in the following SIC categories that have a single or aggregate building total square footage of under 100,000 gross square feet:

- 41 (local & suburban transportation)
- 4493 (marinas)
- 5211 (lumber & other building materials)
- 55 (auto dealers & service stations)
- 5813 (drinking places-alcoholic beverages)
- 703 (camps & RV park)
- 75 (car rental/repair)
- 754 (car wash)
- 769 (misc. repair shops & related services)
- 78 (motion pictures, except 782, 7833 & 784)
- 7929 (bands & other entertainment groups)
- 793 (bowling alley)
- 794 (commercial sport)
- 7992 (golf course)
- 7993 (coin-operated amusement devices)
- 7997 (membership & sports recreation clubs)

- 7999 (amusement & recreation)
- 806 (hospitals)
- 82 (educational services)

**HEAVY IMPACT:** Any single use or combination of uses that have a single or aggregate building total square footage of 100,000 gross square feet or greater; any use in the following SIC categories:

- Mining: (SIC 10, 12, 13, 14)
- Construction: (SIC 15, 16, 17)
- Manufacturing: (SIC 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39)
- 40 (railroad transportation)
- 42 (motor freight transportation & warehousing)
- 448 (water transportation of passengers)
- 4491 (marine cargo handling)
- 4492 (towing & tugboat services)
- 4499 (water transportation services)
- 474 (rental of railroad cars)
- 478 (miscellaneous service incidental to transportation)
- 49 (electric, gas & sanitary services)
- 5093 (scrap & waste materials)
- 7353 (lease miscellaneous heavy construction equipment)
- 7833 (drive-in picture theaters)
- 7996 (amusement parks)
- 8422 (arboreta & botanical or zoological gardens)
- 9223 (correctional institutions)
- 971 (national security)

**TABLE 132-2  
BUFFERYARD AND SCREENING STANDARDS**

<b>Buffer Category</b>	<b>Required Bufferyard Width (in feet)</b>	<b>Required Plant Units (P.U.)</b>	<b>Fence or Wall Required (minimum)</b>
<b>A</b>	5	1 P.U. per 20 sq ft of yard area	None
<b>B</b>	10	1 P.U. per 20 sq ft of yard area	6' Fence or Wall
<b>C</b>	15	1 P.U. per 20 sq ft of yard area	6' Fence or Wall
<b>D</b>	30	1 P.U. per 20 sq ft of yard area	6' Fence or Wall
<b>E</b>	40	1 P.U. per 16 sq ft of yard area	6' Wall

**TABLE 132-3  
PLANT UNIT DEFINITION**

Required number of plant units shall be met by a combination of the plant materials listed below, so that seventy-five (75) percent of the required landscaped yard shall be covered within five years. A minimum of 40% of the required number of plant units shall be a combination of significant trees, shade trees, evergreen/conifer trees, or ornamental trees.

**Plant Unit (PU) Values**

- 1 Significant Tree (Defined by SRC 132.120(q)) = 15 PU
- 1 Shade Tree = 10 PU
- 1 Evergreen/Conifer Tree = 5 PU
- 1 Ornamental Tree = 2 PU
- 1 Large Deciduous or Evergreen Shrub (At maturity: over 4' wide; 4' high) = 2 PU
- 1 Small to Medium Shrub (At maturity: maximum 4' wide/4' high) = 1 PU
- Lawn or other ground cover = 1 PU per 50 sq ft

**Minimum Size at Planting**

- 1 1/2" - 2" Caliper
- 6' - 8' Height
- 1" - 1 1/2" Caliper
- 3 gallon or balled and burlapped
- 1 gallon