

Applicable Documents:

- A. These Specifications and the requirements hereafter will govern this project during the installation, guarantee and maintenance period.

Scope of Work:

- A. The work specified by this section of the Specifications and the Plans consists of furnishing all labor, materials, tools, apparatus, means of transportation, supplies, equipment, materials, services and incidentals necessary to complete the work as indicated on the Plans and Specifications, as well as all other related responsibilities, including all change and repairs incident thereto.
- B. The work shall include, but not be limited to, furnishing material, root pruning where required, layout, protection of the public, excavation, installation, backfilling, grading, fertilizing, mulching, staking and guying where required, watering, pruning where required, sod installation, seeding, cleanup, maintenance and guarantee.
- C. Quantities and Location: The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the numbers and locations of the designated types and species to be used at any of the locations shown in order to provide for any modifications which might be necessary.
- D. Investigation of Subsurface Condition: The Contractor shall be responsible for making site subsurface investigations and determination as to the depth of the water table, and the character of the existing material and the construction conditions under which he or she will work. The final report of the investigation and determination shall be included in the bid. The Contractor shall not receive separate, additional compensation for this work.
- E. The Landscape Contractor shall be paid for only those units of work completed as set forth in the Specifications. The contractor's unit prices shall be the basis for said payment. The final report of the investigation and determination shall be included in the bid. The Contractor shall not receive separate, additional compensation for this work.
- F. Ten percent (10%) of the total contract price will be held as retainer for 90 days after final written acceptance.
- G. The Landscape Contractor will coordinate his work with all other trades at the job site.

- (2) Palm from lying shall be as set forth in the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants." Lying palms will be as the option of the Contractor. The Landscape Architect may direct the Landscape Contractor to utilize these palms from a local grower who has never been sprayed with a light acid reaction (5.0 to 6.5 pH) and without an excess of spring water. Soil shall be delivered in a loose friable condition.
- (3) To reduce head volume, Palm Fronds may be taper trimmed by no more than one-third.
- (4) Palms with mechanical damage, such as from cables, cables, equipment and nails, shall be rejected.

- Chlorox: The allowable level of Chlorox in foliage shall be as set forth in the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants".
- J. Plant material shall not be accepted when the ball of earth surrounding its roots has been cracked, broken or otherwise damaged.

- K. Root pruning of plant material, when necessary, shall be done three to six weeks prior to the time of planting at the Landscape Architect, prior to planting at the project.

- Sod:
 - A. Sod shall be solid sod and shall be standard quality grade. Note: Quality grade shall be based on the standards of sod quality grades (premium standard or commercial) as established by the Turf Grass Producers Association of Florida Inc. The sod shall be well matted with roots and of firm enough texture having a consistent growth and healthy root development. Sod shall be free of objectionable grasses and broad leaf weeds. Sod shall not accepted if it contains Bermuda Grass. Sod sections shall be strong enough to support when suspended vertically from a firm grasp on the upper 50% of the section. Sod sections shall be harvested and stored under moisture control (excessively dry or wet) may adversely affect its survival. Sod shall be relatively free of thatch, up to one half inch allowable (uncompressed).
 - B. The soil embedded in the sod shall be a clean, earth free of stones and debris. The sod shall have been mowed at least three times with a lawn mower with final mowing not more than seven days prior to the sod being out for placement. The sod shall be placed in standard sized mats measuring not less than 12 inches by 24 inches and shall be live, fresh and unharmed at the time of placement. It shall be planted within 48 hours after it shall be stacked and kept moist from the time it is cut until it is planted.

- Removal of Plant Material:
 - (1) All plant material to be removed shall be removed completely including the rootball, from the job or as directed by the landscape architect. The remaining hole shall be filled with suitable material or planting soil as directed by the Landscape Architect.

- Existing Plant Material to be Relocated:
 - (1) All existing plant material to be relocated shall be root pruned a minimum of 4 weeks or for a period as determined by the Landscape Architect prior to relocation.
 - (2) Rootball: Requirements for the measurement of minimum rootball diameter and depth shall comply with the requirements as set forth in the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants, Parts I and Part 2," as follows:

CALIFRER	MIN. BALL DIA.	MIN. BALL DEPTH
1 - 15"	16"	75% of dia.
15 - 17 1/2"	20"	65% of dia.
17 1/2 - 20"	22"	65% of dia.
20 - 25"	24"	65% of dia.
25 - 35"	26"	65% of dia.
35 - 45"	30"	60% of dia.
45 - 50"	34"	60% of dia.
50 - 55"	38"	60% of dia.
55" or more	Increase in proportion	then decrease in proportion for larger size diameter

- (3) Root pruning shall be accomplished by digging a trench completely around the plant about 18 inches deep. All exposed roots shall be cut off thoroughly.
- (4) A mixture of good organic fertilizer and planting soil shall be used to refill the trench.
- (5) Plant material which is in soil of a loose texture, which does not readily adhere to the root system, especially in the case of large plants or trees, shall have the rootball wrapped in burlap and then wire, if directed by the Landscape Architect. For wire hog wire shall be used and it shall be wrapped around the rootball before the plant is removed from the hole for relocation. The wire shall be looped and tensioned until the burlapped ball is substantially packaged by the tightened wire netting formed by the wire. The Contractor in writing of this final acceptance as of the date of plants during handling.

Quality Assurance:

- A. The Landscape Architect may inspect trees, shrubs, and groundcover either at the place of growth or at the site before planting for compliance with the requirements for name, variety, size, and quality. The Landscape Architect retains the right to further inspect trees and shrubs for size and condition of balls and root system, insects, injuries, and latent defects, and try to reject unsatisfactory material at any time during the progress of work. The Landscape Contractor shall remove rejected trees or shrubs within 7 days from the project site.

- B. Responsibility for Assuring Quality Work:
 - (1) The Contractor's Superintendent shall speak English and be well versed in Florida plant material, planting operations, Plans and Specification interpretation, coordination with other contractors or service in the project area and coordination between the nursery and the project.
 - (2) All employees shall be competent and highly skilled in their particular job in order to properly perform the work assigned to them. The Contractor shall be responsible for maintaining the quality of the material on the project.
 - (3) The Contractor will comply with applicable Federal, State, County and local requirements governing landscape materials and work.

- C. Grade Standards:
 - (1) Plant material shall be Florida 1 or better as set forth in the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants.
 - (2) All plant material will be subject to the approval of the Landscape Architect for quality size and color, pruning, etc. as the option of the Contractor. The Contractor's unit prices shall be the basis for said payment. The final report of the investigation and determination shall be included in the bid. The Contractor shall not receive separate, additional compensation for this work.
 - (3) Plant material shall have normal, well developed branches and shall be vigorous plants, free from defects, decay, bums, disfiguring roots, sun-scaled injuries, abrasion of the bark, plant diseases, insect pest eggs, barers, and all forms of infestations or objectionable disfigurements.

- D. Planting Soil:
 - A. All plant material, unless indicated otherwise, shall be installed with a planting soil composed of sandy loam (50% sand), and 50% muck typical of the locality. The soil must be suitable for use in a container. It shall be free of any light acid reaction (5.0 to 6.5 pH) and without an excess of spring water. Soil shall be delivered in a loose friable condition.

- Water:
 - A. Potable: from municipal water supplies or other sources which are approved by a public health department.

- Mulch:
 - A. Mulch shall be:
 - (1) "Floramax"

- Fertilizer:
 - A. New and existing Trees and Palms: Fertilize with 8-7-12 palm fertilizer with micronutrients per manufacturer's recommendation.
 - B. New and existing Shrubs, and Groundcover: Fertilize with 8-7-12 palm fertilizer with micronutrients at a rate of 1/2 lb. per 1000 SF of area.
 - C. Annual Fertilizer with Osmocote - Sierra blend 14-14-14 or approved equal.

- Composition and Quality: All fertilizer shall be uniform in composition and dry. Granular fertilizer shall be free flowing and delivered in unopened bags. All bag containers or boxes shall be fully labeled with the manufacturer's analysis.

- E. All fertilizer shall comply with the State of Florida fertilizer laws.

Delivery, Handling and Storage:

- A. Delivery and Handling:
 - (1) Movement of nursery stock shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, ordinances, codes, etc.
 - (2) Protect during delivery to prevent damage to root ball or desiccation of leaves. Remove unacceptable plant material from the site immediately.
 - (3) Transport materials on vehicles large enough to allow plants not to be crowded and damaged. Plants shall be covered to prevent wind damage during transit.

- B. Sod:
 - (1) Deliver sod on pallets with root system protected from moisture or lack of, that may affect final installation, capable of being installed within 48 hours of cutting.

- Submittals 4. Approvals:
 - A. Written request for approval to substitute a plant species or a plants designation (BIB, UBIB, CG, etc.), type, grade, quality, size, quantity, etc. due to the non-availability of the material specified. Approval must be given by the Landscape Architect before the material is delivered and installed on the project. The Contractor must provide written proof that the specified plant material is unavailable.

- B. Any request for the approval of an equal shall be in writing. Approval shall be given by the Landscape Architect before the material is delivered and installed on the project. The Contractor must provide written proof that the specified plant material is unavailable.

- C. Submit three prints of shop drawings for any special conditions not covered in the details indicated. This shall be for approval by the Landscape Architect before they are installed on the project.

- D. If requested by the Owner or Landscape Architect submit a schedule of all specimen plant material and collected plant material indicating the sources or suppliers of these materials and their locations for approval by the Landscape Architect before they are delivered and installed on the project. Also, two color photographs of each different item, showing different side views of the item shall be submitted with the schedule. Additional color photographs shall be submitted if requested.

- E. If requested by the Owner or Landscape Architect, submit a letter indicating the sources or suppliers of all sod and the grade to be supplied for approval by the Landscape Architect before it is delivered and installed on the project.

Guarantees:

- A. The guarantee shall not begin until the day final written acceptance is given.
- B. All plant material, except sod, trees and palms, shall be guaranteed for a minimum of 1 year from the time of final acceptance. All sod shall be guaranteed for a minimum of 60 days from the time of final acceptance. All trees and palms shall be guaranteed for one year from the time of final acceptance.
- C. The guarantee shall be null and void for plant material which is damaged or dies as a result of "Acts of God" limited to hail, freeze, lightning, and winds which exceed hurricane force, providing the plant was in a healthy growing condition prior to these "Acts of God".
- D. At the option of the Owner, and Inspections may be made at the end of the guarantee period, but prior to the last day of the guarantee period.

- Replacement:
 - A. The guaranteeing of a plant material shall be construed to mean the complete and immediate replacement of plant material within 3 calendar days if it is:
 - (1) Not in a healthy growing condition and thus renders it below the minimum quality indicated in the Specifications.
 - (2) There is a question to its ability to survive after the end of the guarantee period that would render it below the minimum quality indicated in the Specifications.
 - (3) It is dead.
 - B. The 3 calendar days may be extended due to seasonal conditions, availability, preparation time such as root pruning, etc. only if approved by the Landscape Architect in advance. The extended time shall be negotiated between all parties concerned, but must receive final approval by the Landscape Architect.

- C. Size, Quality, and Grade:
 - (1) Replacement plant material shall be one of the same species quality and grade as that of the plant to be replaced. The size of the replacement shall not necessarily be the same size as the original species, but shall be of equal size to the plant to be replaced at the time it has been determined that it must be replaced.

- D. Spacing of Groundcover 4 Shrubs: The location of a spacing of ground cover (shrub or groundcover) next to another bed, walkway, structure, etc. shall be the same as all such utilities, structures, etc. by hand excavation or other appropriate measures before performing any work that could result in damage to the proper utility, structure or property. The Contractor shall make a immediately shall be covered with moist soil or mulch to insure proper vertical drainage necessary for plant survival and growth.

- E. Subsurface Conditions: Some or all work areas may be compacted and/or contain existing utilities or other facilities which are disrupted due to his or her additional outside services which may be necessary to provide repairs on a continuous "around the clock" basis until services are restored. He or she shall also provide and operate any supplemental temporary services to maintain uninterrupted use of the facilities. All costs involved in the repairs and restoring disrupted utilities shall be borne by the Contractor and he or she shall be fully responsible for any and all claims resulting from the damage.

- F. Should utilities, structures, etc. be encountered which interfere with the work, the Landscape Architect shall be consulted immediately in order for a decision to be made on the relocation of the work so it will clear the construction. If the construction cannot be relocated, the Contractor shall not purposefully disrupt or disconnect any utility underground without first obtaining the written approval of the Landscape Architect. Requests for disconnection must be in writing to the Landscape Architect at least 12 hours prior to the time of the requested interruption.

- G. Excavation of Plant Holes:
 - (1) General:
 - a. Excavation of planting holes shall be roughly cylindrical in shape with the sides approximately vertical. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the size and shape of the plant hole and the location of the planting hole. At its initial convenience for unanticipated structures or unanticipated factors which are a conflict.
 - b. The excavated material from the plant holes shall not be used to backfill around the plant material. Such material shall be disposed of either on the project site or off the site, as directed by the Landscape Architect.
 - (2) General:
 - a. Excavation of planting holes shall be roughly cylindrical in shape with the sides approximately vertical. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the size and shape of the plant hole and the location of the planting hole. At its initial convenience for unanticipated structures or unanticipated factors which are a conflict.
 - b. The excavated material from the plant holes shall not be used to backfill around the plant material. Such material shall be disposed of either on the project site or off the site, as directed by the Landscape Architect.

- Preparation:
 - A. Staking Plant, Locations: Stakes or mark plant material locations for the site hole excavation based on information from the plans.
 - (5) Edge and new sod once a week.
 - (6) Edge and used all shrubs, groundcover and flower beds once a week.
 - (7) Remove all litter once a week.
 - (8) Spraying and Dusting: Contractor shall do all seasonal spraying and dusting of all planting, as needed, for complete control of pests and diseases. The materials and methods shall be in accordance with the highest standard horticultural practices and as recommended by the County Agent, and approved by the Landscape Architect, prior to implementation.
 - (9) Sod: After the sod has been laid, tamped and top dressed, all areas and parts of areas shall fall to show uniform growth and health, shall be rechecked, repeatedly if necessary, until all sodded areas are covered with a satisfactory lawn. Damage resulting from erosion, gullies, washouts, or other causes shall be repaired by filling with topsoil, tamping, re-fertilizing, and reseeded by the Contractor at his or her expense.
 - (10) Protection: Plant material shall be protected against trespassing and damage. If any plants become damaged or injured, they shall be treated or replaced as directed and the location of the plant shall be marked with a 4" x 4" x 12" wooden stake. No work shall be done within or over planting areas or adjacent to plants without proper safeguards and protection.
 - (11) Keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters, driveways, parking areas, streets, terraces, decks, and pavers free of plant cuttings, debris and staks.
 - D. Material rejected during the course of construction shall be replaced within 3 working days and rechecked before an inspection for completion will be scheduled.
 - E. Survival and Conditions: The Contractor shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and the survival and condition of all landscape items from the time a landscape item is installed until final acceptance.
 - F. Replacement: Replacement of plant material shall be the responsibility of the Contractor including the possible rejection of plant material resulting from removal by theft or vandalism or acts of negligence on the part of others. All plant material shall be alive and in good growing condition for each specific kind of plant at the time of final acceptance.
 - G. Rating: The rating of plant material according to Florida Grades and Standards shall be equal to or better than called for on the Plans and Specifications in these Specifications at the time of final acceptance.

Guarantees:

- A. The guarantee shall not begin until the day final written acceptance is given.
- B. All plant material, except sod, trees and palms, shall be guaranteed for a minimum of 1 year from the time of final acceptance. All sod shall be guaranteed for a minimum of 60 days from the time of final acceptance. All trees and palms shall be guaranteed for one year from the time of final acceptance.
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- Replacement:
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 - B. The 3 calendar days may be extended due to seasonal conditions, availability, preparation time such as root pruning, etc. only if approved by the Landscape Architect in advance. The extended time shall be negotiated between all parties concerned, but must receive final approval by the Landscape Architect.

- C. Size, Quality, and Grade:
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- D. Spacing of Groundcover 4 Shrubs: The location of a spacing of ground cover (shrub or groundcover) next to another bed, walkway, structure, etc. shall be the same as all such utilities, structures, etc. by hand excavation or other appropriate measures before performing any work that could result in damage to the proper utility, structure or property. The Contractor shall make a immediately shall be covered with moist soil or mulch to insure proper vertical drainage necessary for plant survival and growth.

- E. Subsurface Conditions: Some or all work areas may be compacted and/or contain existing utilities or other facilities which are disrupted due to his or her additional outside services which may be necessary to provide repairs on a continuous "around the clock" basis until services are restored. He or she shall also provide and operate any supplemental temporary services to maintain uninterrupted use of the facilities. All costs involved in the repairs and restoring disrupted utilities shall be borne by the Contractor and he or she shall be fully responsible for any and all claims resulting from the damage.

- F. Should utilities, structures, etc. be encountered which interfere with the work, the Landscape Architect shall be consulted immediately in order for a decision to be made on the relocation of the work so it will clear the construction. If the construction cannot be relocated, the Contractor shall not purposefully disrupt or disconnect any utility underground without first obtaining the written approval of the Landscape Architect. Requests for disconnection must be in writing to the Landscape Architect at least 12 hours prior to the time of the requested interruption.

- G. Excavation of Plant Holes:
 - (1) General:
 - a. Excavation of planting holes shall be roughly cylindrical in shape with the sides approximately vertical. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the size and shape of the plant hole and the location of the planting hole. At its initial convenience for unanticipated structures or unanticipated factors which are a conflict.
 - b. The excavated material from the plant holes shall not be used to backfill around the plant material. Such material shall be disposed of either on the project site or off the site, as directed by the Landscape Architect.
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 - (7) Remove all litter once a week.
 - (8) Spraying and Dusting: Contractor shall do all seasonal spraying and dusting of all planting, as needed, for complete control of pests and diseases. The materials and methods shall be in accordance with the highest standard horticultural practices and as recommended by the County Agent, and approved by the Landscape Architect, prior to implementation.
 - (9) Sod: After the sod has been laid, tamped and top dressed, all areas and parts of areas shall fall to show uniform growth and health, shall be rechecked, repeatedly if necessary, until all sodded areas are covered with a satisfactory lawn. Damage resulting from erosion, gullies, washouts, or other causes shall be repaired by filling with topsoil, tamping, re-fertilizing, and reseeded by the Contractor at his or her expense.
 - (10) Protection: Plant material shall be protected against trespassing and damage. If any plants become damaged or injured, they shall be treated or replaced as directed and the location of the plant shall be marked with a 4" x 4" x 12" wooden stake. No work shall be done within or over planting areas or adjacent to plants without proper safeguards and protection.
 - (11) Keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters, driveways, parking areas, streets, terraces, decks, and pavers free of plant cuttings, debris and staks.
 - D. Material rejected during the course of construction shall be replaced within 3 working days and rechecked before an inspection for completion will be scheduled.
 - E. Survival and Conditions: The Contractor shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and the survival and condition of all landscape items from the time a landscape item is installed until final acceptance.
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Guarantees:

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- C. Size, Quality, and Grade:
 - (1) Replacement plant material shall be one of the same species quality and grade as that of the plant to be replaced. The size of the replacement shall not necessarily be the same size as the original species, but shall be of equal size to the plant to be replaced at the time it has been determined that it must be replaced.

- D. Spacing of Groundcover 4 Shrubs: The location of a spacing of ground cover (shrub or groundcover) next to another bed, walkway, structure, etc. shall be the same as all such utilities, structures, etc. by hand excavation or other appropriate measures before performing any work that could result in damage to the proper utility, structure or property. The Contractor shall make a immediately shall be covered with moist soil or mulch to insure proper vertical drainage necessary for plant survival and growth.

- E. Subsurface Conditions: Some or all work areas may be compacted and/or contain existing utilities or other facilities which are disrupted due to his or her additional outside services which may be necessary to provide repairs on a continuous "around the clock" basis until services are restored. He or she shall also provide and operate any supplemental temporary services to maintain uninterrupted use of the facilities. All costs involved in the repairs and restoring disrupted utilities shall be borne by the Contractor and he or she shall be fully responsible for any and all claims resulting from the damage.

- F. Should utilities, structures, etc. be encountered which interfere with the work, the Landscape Architect shall be consulted immediately in order for a decision to be made on the relocation of the work so it will clear the construction. If the construction cannot be relocated, the Contractor shall not purposefully disrupt or disconnect any utility underground without first obtaining the written approval of the Landscape Architect. Requests for disconnection must be in writing to the Landscape Architect at least 12 hours prior to the time of the requested interruption.

- G. Excavation of Plant Holes:
 - (1) General:
 - a. Excavation of planting holes shall be roughly cylindrical in shape with the sides approximately vertical. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the size and shape of the plant hole and the location of the planting hole. At its initial convenience for unanticipated structures or unanticipated factors which are a conflict.
 - b. The excavated material from the plant holes shall not be used to backfill around the plant material. Such material shall be disposed of either on the project site or off the site, as directed by the Landscape Architect.
 - (2) General:
 - a. Excavation of planting holes shall be roughly cylindrical in shape with the sides approximately vertical. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to adjust the size and shape of the plant hole and the location of the planting hole. At its initial convenience for unanticipated structures or unanticipated factors which are a conflict.
 - b. The excavated material from the plant holes shall not be used to backfill around the plant material. Such material shall be disposed of either on the project site or off the site, as directed by the Landscape Architect.

- Preparation:
 - A. Staking Plant, Locations: Stakes or mark plant material locations for the site hole excavation based on information from the plans.
 - (5) Edge and new sod once a week.
 - (6) Edge and used all shrubs, groundcover and flower beds once a week.
 - (7) Remove all litter once a week.
 - (8) Spraying and Dusting: Contractor shall do all seasonal spraying and dusting of all planting, as needed, for complete control of pests and diseases. The materials and methods shall be in accordance with the highest standard horticultural practices and as recommended by the County Agent, and approved by the Landscape Architect, prior to implementation.
 - (9) Sod: After the sod has been laid, tamped and top dressed, all areas and parts of areas shall fall to show uniform growth and health, shall be rechecked, repeatedly if necessary, until all sodded areas are covered with a satisfactory lawn. Damage resulting from erosion, gullies, washouts, or other causes shall be repaired by filling with topsoil, tamping, re-fertilizing, and reseeded by the Contractor at his or her expense.
 - (10) Protection: Plant material shall be protected against trespassing and damage. If any plants become damaged or injured, they shall be treated or replaced as directed and the location of the plant shall be marked with a 4" x 4" x 12" wooden stake. No work shall be done within or over planting areas or adjacent to plants without proper safeguards and protection.
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