

Tree Tips for Commercial Sites

Chapter 106 of the Little Elm Code of Ordinances requires the owner of commercial property be responsible for the permanent maintenance of all on-site landscaping. The Town of Little Elm annually inspects its commercial properties to ensure that all required trees are maintained in a healthy and growing condition as is appropriate for the season of the year. Listed below are some helpful hints to protect your landscape investment.



It is critical to remove all stakes and guy wires if your tree has been planted longer than 18 months. Stakes and guy wires, if left alone, will choke and eventually kill your tree.



The topping of crepe myrtles, also known as “crepe murder”, butchers the tree and is prohibited by ordinance. Do **NOT** do this.

Generally, a tree should not be pruned above its “crotch” area. Pruning too high, creating a “lion’s tail” or “carrot top” severely weak-

ens a tree, looks bad, and is prohibited by ordinance. Do not participate in this bad practice.



The practice of volcano mulching (mounding the trunk) suffocates and weakens the tree. Mulch should be in a bagel or donut shape instead.



*Fast-growing trees are often favored, but that is a poor standard for selecting a tree because all fast-growing trees have some form of fatal flaw that will result in premature death, disease, or other nuisance. Replacement trees should be from the **Approved Plant List** found on the Town’s website.*

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