

Sec. 114-420. Plantings--Landscape and trees.

(a) *Purpose and intent.*

(1) This section shall be known and referred to as the "City of Anna Maria Landscape and Tree Ordinance."

(2) The purpose is to establish minimum **landscaping** standards and criteria to preserve and establish vegetative communities; to protect plant and wildlife habitats from adverse impacts of growth while contributing to the process of air purification, recharging groundwater, and the retarding of erosion by stormwater; to provide vegetative buffering between land uses; to promote the conservation of water by encouraging the preservation of existing and the planting of new native vegetation; to promote the planting of native vegetation; to promote the use of site-specific plant materials; and to establish requirements for the installation and maintenance of landscape materials. Such requirements will help delineate visual separation of land uses and provide relief from the built-up environment, while improving the value of property.

(b) *Applicability; exemptions.*

(1) The requirements under this section shall apply in all zoning districts to all new development, redevelopment or the expansion of existing uses where additions, improvements, or alterations to existing uses result in a total increase of all the structures on a lot or parcel in excess of 1,000 square feet of gross floor area or an increase in the non-permeable surface area of a lot or parcel in excess of 1,600 square feet within a 12-month period.

(2) All existing single-family, two-family, multifamily residential uses and all existing commercial uses existing prior to the effective date of this section shall be exempt from the requirements of this section. All new single-family residential uses and new commercial uses where the final certificate of occupancy has been issued prior to the effective date of this section shall be exempt from the requirements of this section.

(3) The **landscaping** requirements and standards under this section shall be presented in a landscape plan and submitted along with every building permit application and every site plan application.

(4) Installation of all **landscaping** required under this section shall be completed as a condition to the issuance of certificate of completion or certificate of occupancy.

(c) *Landscaping requirements for uses in the residential districts and for residential uses in ROR district, as described in subsection 114-420(b)(1).*

(1) On each platted lot or parcel, **landscaping** shall include at least six native trees with a minimum of three different tree species and at least nine native shrubs with a minimum of three different shrub species.

(2) On each platted lot or parcel, if additional plantings are installed above the minimum, then a minimum of 25 percent of the total number of trees and shrubs installed must be native plants.

(3) Native trees and shrubs required to meet the requirements, shall be selected from the city native plant list as adopted by the city commission by resolution from time to time.

(d) *Landscaping requirements for uses in PRA, PSP and C-1 districts and commercial uses in ROR district, as described in subsection 114-420(b)(1).*

(1) A minimum of 10 percent of the lot or parcel shall be landscaped with vegetation.

(2) On each platted lot or parcel, **landscaping** shall include at least six native trees with a minimum of three different tree species and at least nine native shrubs with a minimum of three different shrub species.

(3) On each platted lot or parcel, if additional plantings are installed above the minimum, then a minimum of 75 percent of the total number of trees and shrubs installed must be native plants.

- (4) The native trees and shrubs required to meet the requirements of this section shall be selected from the city native plant list as adopted by resolution from time to time.
- (e) *Vegetation buffer requirements.*
  - (1) A strip of **landscaping** vegetation, called a "vegetation buffer" in this section, shall be required in C-1 or commercial uses in ROR where it abuts residential use in the residential districts with or without an intervening alley.
  - (2) Vegetative buffers shall be at least five feet high in depth and in addition to the **landscaping** material the buffer shall contain a six foot wood fence separating the use from the residential use.
  - (3) Each required vegetation buffer shall include at least one medium or large tree and five small trees or large shrubs for each 70 square feet of the required buffer area.
  - (4) Each required vegetative buffer shall include at least three different tree species and six different shrub species.
  - (5) Each required buffer shall be composed of a minimum of 75 percent native plants and shall be selected from the city native plants list for vegetation buffers.
  - (6) Each buffer must be maintained to encourage dense opacity for screening purposes.
- (f) *Installation standards for plants required in vegetation buffers for C-1 and commercial uses in ROR.*
  - (1) The placement of plants need not be uniform.
  - (2) Medium and large trees installed in a vegetation buffer, and existing, preserved medium and large trees used to meet the requirements of this section, must be a minimum of seven feet in height. At the time of installation, nursery stock medium and large trees shall be in ten gallon or larger containers and nursery stock small trees and shrubs shall be in seven gallon or larger containers.
  - (3) All required vegetation shall be protected from vehicular encroachment.
  - (4) A completion of certificate or certificate of occupancy shall not be issued unless required vegetation buffers meet all the requirements.
  - (5) The native trees and shrubs required to meet the regulations shall be selected from the city plant list.
  - (6) Existing preserved native plants shall be counted toward meeting the requirements of this section.
- (g) *Tree and shrub removal and replacement on public land.* Any native or exotic tree, with a four inches or greater caliper measurement taken at 4.5 feet above ground level, that is removed from public lands within the city shall be replaced by the city with two native trees from the city plants list. Any shrub over five feet in height that is removed from public lands within the city shall be replaced by the city with two native shrubs from the city plants list. The replacement plants shall be located as close to the removal sites as practically possible. Replacements shall be installed within 60 days.
- (h) *Tree protection.* Native trees under this section may not be removed unless a replacement native tree is installed on the same lot or parcel.
- (i) *Prohibited plants.* Prohibited plant species, as listed and specified on the city prohibited plants list, shall not be permitted to be planted in the city. Such species are known to be of invasive exotic vegetation.
- (j) *Irrigation.* Any new automatic irrigation system shall include a rain sensor device.  
(Ord. No. 96-549, § 1(3.09.10), 2-16-96; Ord. No. 09-700, § 3, 4-23-09)