

Facilities Policy

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Approved by: Eric Kopstain,
Vice Chancellor
for
Administration

General Policy for:

Removal and Replacement of Trees

<p>PURPOSE:</p>	<p>The Arboretum is an essential part of Vanderbilt’s campus identity and provides critical ecosystem services to our community. This policy encourages thoughtful design and construction methods to protect mature trees. In cases where trees must be removed, this policy provides a guide for minimum standards of replacement to support the future canopy of our campus and neighboring communities. This policy applies to all activities that affect trees on any Vanderbilt University property including, but not limited to, capital projects, maintenance projects, accidental damage, and removals by Grounds for health and safety. This policy was approved by the Arboretum Advisory Committee.</p>
<p>POLICY:</p>	<p>Projects are to make every reasonable effort to avoid negatively impacting or removing trees. Refer to Tree Protection standards in Vanderbilt A&E specifications.</p> <p>Removals and Documentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a project must remove a tree or if the University Landscape Architect (ULA) determines a tree will be negatively impacted to the point a removal will be necessary, a tree worksheet must be filled out by project PM and signed by University LA prior to completion of Construction Documents. This sheet will detail the species and diameter at breast height (DBH) of tree to be removed, as well as what will happen to the wood. • A tree condition assessment must be completed by a certified arborist. This could include a member of the Grounds team or a consulting arborist. • Any tree removed must be replaced at the following rates, depending on DBH. If removed tree is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ < 6” DBH, replace at 1:1 ○ 6-11” DBH, replace at 2:1 ○ 12-17” DBH, replace at 5:1 ○ 18-23” DBH, replace at 10:1



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- 24-29" DBH, replace at 18:1
- 30-35" DBH, replace at 28:1
- 36-41" DBH, replace at 41:1
- > 42" DBH, replace at 55:1

- If any trees larger than 24" DBH are proposed to be removed, the AVC of Facilities must also sign off on worksheet.

Replacements

- Replacement trees must be a minimum of 3" DBH
- New trees should be irrigated for a period of three years, at least.
- Tree Bank:
 - In consultation with University LA, the project team will make a reasonable effort to incorporate as many replacement trees within the project boundaries as possible. However, if all trees are unable to be placed within project site, a credit of \$900 per 3" caliper tree (\$300/caliper inch) shall be paid into a fund to support planting trees elsewhere on grounds. This amount to be reassessed annually to reflect market conditions.
 - Tree Bank money to be directed to Vanderbilt Landscape and Arboretum Fund. This fund to be overseen by ULA and AVC of Facilities. Use of this fund will be reported back to the Arboretum Advisory Committee.
 - Tree Bank funds to be used to replenish canopy, support campus landscape and any infrastructure improvements to benefit campus landscape. Funds also might be used to sponsor the planting and maintenance of trees in the wider Nashville community.

Variance Requests

- In rare cases, due to extenuating circumstances, the applicant may request a variance. A meeting with the AVC of Facilities and applicant will be arranged to review the request.