

THE STUMP

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

FEBRUARY 2021

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

Tree Planting Review

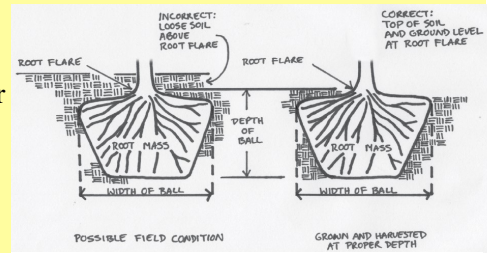
During the last portion of December 2020, I was able to participate in two tree planting events. During that time, it was obvious a review of basic tree planting was needed. In both cases, trees arrived that were too deep in the root ball and were intended to be planted with the top of the root ball at or below ground level. Both of these situations would lead to the trees being started off poorly.

Quality tree stock is essential to reaching the goal of a long-lived tree providing the benefits desired of it. There are standards for the quality of stock established by ANSI Z60.1 - American Standard for Nursery Stock. A free copy is available from AmericanHort at: www.americanhort.org/page/standards.

ANSI Z60.1 provides information on how trees are grown and what they should be like when ready for sale and transplant. Specifications vary with type of growing system, size, type and quality of tree or shrub. It is a good place to start as you create specifications for trees you order for resale or a project.

In general, ANSI Z60.1 indicates the tree or shrub should be in the center of a root ball adequate for the size of tree AND the root flare is at the top of the root ball.

At the time of the planting, regardless of planting a tree by hand or with aid of power equipment, it is critical to plant the tree at the proper depth.



ANSI Z.601 - Figure 8

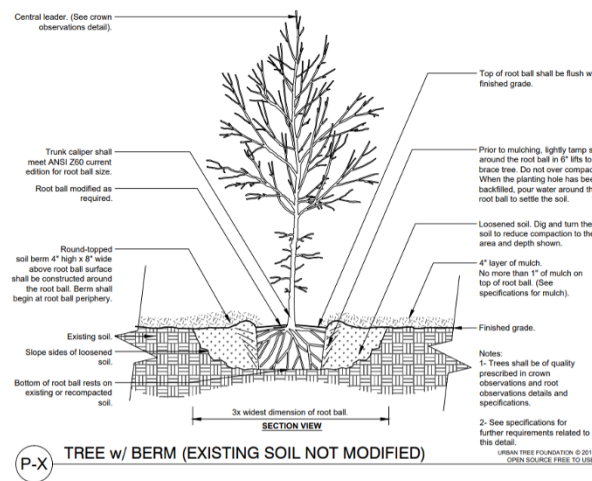
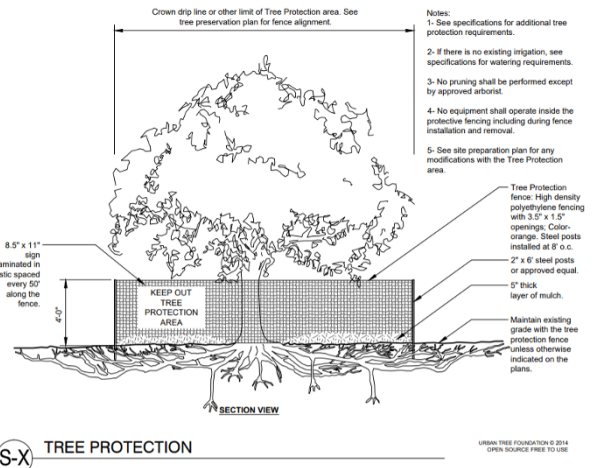
Unfortunately, many trees come with the root flare below the top of the root ball. You must determine where the root flare is before placing the tree in the hole. You can use a engineering pin, piece of welding rod, or some other small metal item to probe the top of the ball to find the upper most roots. Once you have located the upper roots / root flare, subtract this distance from the total root ball height. This is the maximum depth of the planting hole. If the hole is deeper, add back soil, compact it lightly to reduce likelihood of the tree settling after planting.

Remove as much of the packaging materials (container, wire basket, grow bag) and place tree in the hole. If still covered in burlap, remove as much as possible. Fill remainder of hole with native soil but not over the root ball and water thoroughly. If soil settles after watering, add enough to bring to edge of root ball. Mulch appropriately.

Planting Details and Specifications Available

Standard tree planting language was established through publication of the ANSI A300 transplanting standard most recent addition. Although the standard encourages the profession to write detailed planting specifications, few have become readily available or recognized. As a result, many in the green industry use out-of-date specifications.

Dr. Ed Gilman from University of Florida, Jim Urban, FASLA, and Brian Kempf and Tyson Carroll of the Urban Tree Foundation have developed a modern, up-to-date and peer reviewed set of details and specifications in AutoCAD and PDF formats for the green industry. These are designed specifically for landscape architects, engineers, architects, contractors, urban foresters, arborists, municipalities and state agencies. All are open source, free and can be edited by the user. You and your colleagues are free to use them in projects without charge and without credit to the Urban Tree Foundation or any of the project team members. Although authors encourage modification to fit your specific site and project needs, make your changes only after carefully considering all the pertinent variables at the planting site.



London planetree
Platanus x acerifolia

London planetree is a large tree with a mature height of 70 to 100 feet with a spread of 65 to 80 feet, but can grow even larger. This tree is appropriate for medium to large yards, parks, and street side plantings with large boulevards. The specie does best on deep, rich, moist, well-drained soil but will grow almost anywhere. Besides the huge size of mature trees, it is prized for its white, flaky bark with bronze and green accents. Some consider the large leaves a nuisance to rake up in the fall. A natural hybrid between oriental planetree and American sycamore, it was discovered in London in 1663. This cross resulted in a tree resistant to anthracnose and powdery mildew. Lace bugs are the most serious pest which can be easily controlled. Fall color is poor. Cultivars to consider are 'Bloodgood', 'Liberty' and 'Yarwood' for resistance to diseases.

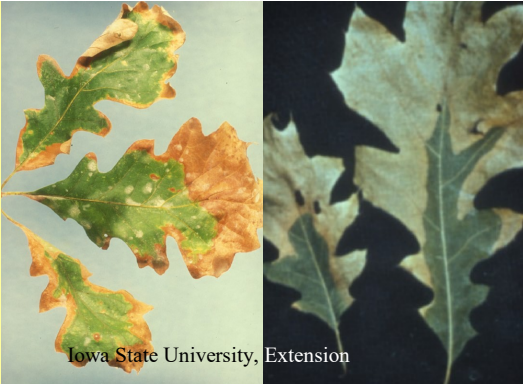
Web Review - Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives

More and more research is revealing the health benefits of trees. The Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives webpage has an infographic where you click on various icon which then pops up a brief description of the that health benefit trees provide. Below the graphic is a complete list of the icon descriptions and the research that documented the benefit. This is a great way to educate decision makers in your community of these benefits and the value trees provide justifying the investment needed to maintain a community forest. Visit it at: www.southernforests.org/urban/healthy-trees-healthy-lives.



Oak Wilt

Oak wilt (*Ceratocystis fagacearum*) is a fungal disease. It affects all oaks. Trees in the red oak group may die from infection in as little as three weeks. Infected trees in the white oak group may linger for up to twenty years and occasionally recover. The fungus is spread via root grafts between trees of the same specie and by nitidulid beetles. The fungus moves through the xylem of the tree. Oaks defense ability to plug xylem with tyloses speeds up the death by restricting water flow. In white oaks, it is responsible for the lingering of the tree. Infected trees discolor and drop leaves from the top down in nearly all cases. In Missouri, it is believed nitidulids are the primary spreader of the fungus. They are attracted to fungal mats on red oak group trees to feed. The spores become attached to their bodies. The nitidulids then fly to healthy trees with wounds to feed on sap. The spores then can get into the next tree. Once in a tree, root grafts can spread the fungus locally. To reduce the likelihood of spread by nitidulids, it is recommended to not prune oaks from April 1 to July 1. I personally would suggest including March in that period.



With the COVID-19 situation, all listed events may occur, be postponed, or cancelled depending on the host groups' decisions. Verify before going.

A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.

~ true source unknown

Feb. 2

Pruning With a Purpose, webinar, Noon CT., Free. Info and Register at: http://arkansastrees.org/event/pruning-with-purpose/?instance_id=1.

Feb. 9

Loading of a Tie-in Point While Climbing, webinar, Noon CT., Free. Info and Register at: https://auburn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6P8rCoJIR9O12nxL2tWEyQ.

Feb. 9

Tree Preservation on the Construction Site, webinar, Noon CT., Free. Info and Register at: http://arkansastrees.org/event/tree-preservation-on-the-construction-site/?instance_id=2.

Feb. 16

Trees Count in Cities & Towns: Managing Community Trees to Maximize Their Benefits, webinar, Noon CT., Free. Info and Register at: http://arkansastrees.org/event/trees-count-in-cities-towns-managing-community-trees-to-maximize-their-benefits/?instance_id=19.

Feb. 19 (Raindate - Feb. 26)

Young Tree Pruning and Planting Bed Maintenance Service Day at Missouri Veterans Cemetery.

Feb. 23

Top Ways to Save Money with Trees, webinar, Noon CT., Free. Info and Register at: http://arkansastrees.org/event/top-ways-to-save-money-with-trees/?instance_id=20.

March 11

CTSP Workshop, webinar, 8 AM - 5 PM CT., Info at: https://tcia.org/TCIA/EVENTS/CTSP_Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=CTSP_V321.

April 7 - 9

TCIA Executive Arborist Workshop, Milwaukee, WI, Info at: <https://eaw.tcia.org>.

May 20 - 25

2021 ASCA All Access Spring Conference, Tucson, AZ, Info at: www.asca-consultants.org/page/AnnualConference.

May 18 - 21

2021 ASCA's Consulting Academy , Tucson, AZ, Info at: www.asca-consultants.org/page/ConsultingAcademy.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

"The Stump" website: <https://thestumpnewsletter.weebly.com>

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Use of names of commercial products or organizations does not imply an endorsement or recommendation by the Missouri Department of Conservation

SWMCFC and Joplin MCFC meetings will be sporadic due the COVID-19 situation. Watch for individual emails announcing meetings as they occur.