

- 1. Staking guidelines are based on standard horticultural requirements and are provided for plant establishment purposes only. Details not intended to apply when bracing is intended to address safety considerations. When bracing for safety, refer to Designer generated signed and sealed details. These guidelines are not intended to apply when the tree or palm is within falling distance of a roadway, pedestrian or bicycle route, under extreme wind loads, non-standard soil properties, non-standard plant dimensions, or when rootball is anticipated to be greater than 4 feet diameter and planted on 1:3 slope or steeper.
- 2. All dimensions 6" and less are exaggerated for illustrative purposes only. Dimensions shown for wood materials are nominal. Slopes shown are Vertical:Horizontal.
- 3. Remove plant containers prior to planting. Remove a minimum of the top 1/3 of burlap, fabric, or wire mesh for plants not grown in containers.
- 4. Allow no more than 1" of soil to cover the uppermost root on all trees. Set the top of rootball 1"-2" above finish grade after settling and set plumb to the horizon.
- 5. Backfill with loosened existing soil or as shown in the plans. Remove rocks, sticks, or other deleterious material greater than 1" in any direction prior to backfilling. Water and tamp to remove air pockets. Contact the Engineer prior to planting if existing soils contain excessive sand, clay, or other material not conducive to proper plant growth.

- 6. Construct soil rings at the outer edge of the planting pit with a height of 3" and gently sloping sides unless a permanent, subsurface or drip irrigation system is provided. Do not pile soil on top of rootball.
- 7. Construct a 3" deep layer of mulch placed 2" off the edge of the trunk flare, around the base of shrub, or solidly around ground cover. Never pile mulch against the tree trunk.
- 8. Install guying with minimum 1" wide nylon or polypropylene straps with a minimum 600 lb. break strength. Check straps monthly and adjust as required to eliminate girdling of tree. Locate all wood stakes beyond the edge of soil ring in existing soil and embed a minimum of 18" below finished grade unless otherwise specified. Alternate tree bracing and guying systems specified or approved by the Engineer may be used in lieu of the tree bracing and guying methods detailed on the Index.
- 9. Relocated Trees and Palms: Brace relocated trees and palms in accordance with the Contract Documents. Remove bracing at the conclusion of the contract or as directed by the Engineer. Bracing or straps must not damage or become embedded in the tree bark.
- 10. Use 2" x 2" minimum wood stakes unless otherwise shown in the Plans or directed by the Engineer. Use wood meeting #2 Common or better in accordance with the Standard Grading Rules for Southern Pine.
- 11. Drive stakes into existing, undisturbed soil. Localized compaction may be provided to prevent displacement of the stakes for previously disturbed existing soils that do not provide sufficient stability.

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