

**Alachua County Landscaping Code Update 2024
Draft Recommended Revisions by Topic Area
For BoCC Request to Advertise 05/28/2024**

Process

| Draft Revision Area | Section in Proposed Landscaping Code |
|---|--|
| Overall Code structure – reorganize | all |
| Exemptions for redevelopment, reconfiguration, expansion or change of use – revise for de minimis and add historical developments | 407.40(b) |
| Plan submittal – add minimum criteria | 407.42(b) |
| TND and Stormwater Management landscaping – move to Landscaping Code | 407.43.2(d) 407.43.2(e) |
| FDOT sight triangles – clarify requirements | 407.43.1(d) 407.43.2(b)(5) 407.43.2(c)(10) |
| Plant species substitution – clarify process | 407.44(f) |
| Landscape inspection and certification – clarify process | 407.49. |

Resilient Landscapes (reduced irrigation/fertilizer)

| Draft Revision Area | Section in Proposed Landscaping Code |
|---|---|
| Resilient Landscapes – new subsection | 407.43(a) |
| Turf – specify irrigated for functional uses only (pedestrian traffic, recreation, erosion control); prohibit all in parking islands and in strips less than 4 feet wide | 407.43(a)(1),(2) |
| Groundcovers – encourage as alternative to turf, provide new plant list | 407.43(a)(3) Table 407.50.2 |
| Buffers – clarify use of existing vegetation; allow placement at a distance from parcel boundary considering existing and proposed uses; eliminate new shrubs where other screening is provided | 407.43(a)(6) 407.43.1(5) 407.43.1(b)(6) 407.43.1(c)(6)d. |
| Tree planting strips – require in parking areas for greater planting area | 407.43.2(d)(4) |
| Low Impact Development (LID) stormwater – require as part of landscaping in parking areas consistent with Stormwater Treatment Code | 407.43.2(d)(9) |

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| Sod netting – require certified biodegradable within 3 months | 407.44(c)(4)b. |
| Tree soil volumes and specifications – add minimum requirements | 407.45(a)(1),(2) Ch. 410 Article III. |
| Tree installation – require trunk protectors, biodegradable stakes and guywires | 407.45(a)(7),(8) |
| Irrigation – reference and consistency with new Irrigation code; encourage temporary as outlined in Temporary Irrigation Guidance Document; require leak detection for permanent systems | 407.42(a)(1),(2) 407.46(a)(1) 407.46(a)(5) |
| Soil amendments – encouraged with recommended standards | 407.46(b) |

Compact Development

| Draft Revision Area | Section in Proposed Landscaping Code |
|--|---|
| Trees in relation to utilities – clarify | 407.43(c) |
| Street trees – clarify priority over on-street parking | 407.43.2(b)(3)c. |
| Stormwater basins – allow for square, deep, walled, fenced when designed with usable human scale public space | 407.43.2(e)(3)a. |
| Trees in built areas – require consistent minimum planting areas and reduced planting areas with “alternative planting systems” (root barriers, structural soil, etc.) | 407.45.1(a)(1),(2) |

Urban Heat Island

| Draft Revision Area | Section in Proposed Landscaping Code |
|---|---|
| Shading of buildings – emphasize concentration of tree canopy along southern and western exposures where possible | 407.43.2(a)(2) |
| Paved pedestrian gathering area tree canopy coverage – require perimeter canopy trees | 407.43.2(c)(2) |
| Paved vehicular area tree canopy coverage – simplify provision through trees per parking space and perimeter rather than current square footage calculation; reduce requirement for loading and storage areas of Industrial uses (warehouses, storage facilities, etc.) | 407.43.2(d)(3),(5) |
| Solar facilities on covered parking – allow flexibility in location requirements of adjacent trees | 407.43.2 (d)(6) |

Urban Forest

| Draft Revision Area | Section in Proposed Landscaping Code |
|---|--|
| Buffers – clarify materials distribution, require evergreen shrubs, require wildlife connections through walls or fences | 407.43.1(c)(2),(3) 407.43.1(c)(6)b. 407.43.1(d)(2) |
| Species/genus diversity – thresholds for trees to meet current requirement, new requirement for shrubs, groundcovers | 407.44(a) |
| Native species – require minimum 75% for trees, shrubs, groundcovers | 407.44(b) |
| Minimum tree installation size – reduce for street trees, parking islands, specimen trees for greater species diversity, better establishment | Table 407.44.1 |
| Maximum tree installation size – add to help reduce irrigation/establishment requirements, with limited exceptions for specimen trees | 407.44(d)(1)c. |
| Lethal Bronzing Disease in Palms – limit Palms to 10% of new trees, require LBD-free certification, allow as street trees only for visibility | 407.44(d)(1)e. Table 407.50.1 |
| Edible species – add additional native and non-native to tree list, incentivize | Table 407.50.1 407.44(b) |
| Low quality and invasive species – update tree list to remove | Table 407.50.1 |