FACT SHEET- INTERCEPTOR TREES

Runoff Reduction Measure

INTERCEPTOR TREES

Also known as: Tree Credits





DESCRIPTION

Interceptor trees are new or existing trees with their trunks located within 25' of impervious areas. Trees intercept rain water on their leaves and branches, allowing rain water to evaporate or run down the branches and trunk of the tree where it readily infiltrates into the soil. Tree roots also increase infiltration. Trees also provide shade over impervious surfaces which reduce peak flow in streams and provide shade which reduces the "heat island" effects of urban areas.

Interceptor tree credits are calculated into the site design by reducing the amount of tributary area that must be used to calculate treatment and volume capture. New deciduous trees provide a credit of 100 ft², new evergreen trees provide 200 ft², and existing trees provide one half of the existing canopy. The total area reduction credit due to the use of interceptor trees cannot exceed one half of the total physical tributary area. All calculations shall be completed using the "Storm Water Calculator" available at www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID.



FACT SHEET- INTERCEPTOR TREES

ADVANTAGES

- Reduces the size of downstream storm water BMPs.
- Enhances water quality of downstream water bodies through natural processes.
- Aesthetically pleasing.
- Provides shade to cool pavement and reduces surface runoff temperatures.
- Aids in removal of air pollutants and noise reduction.
- Trees required by the permitting agency may be counted as interceptor trees.
- Establishes habitat for birds and other pollinators like butterflies and bees.

KEY DESIGN FEATURES

- Appropriate new trees must be selected from the approved Tree List included in Appendix G.
- Existing trees must be adequately protected during construction.
- Only tree that overhang impervious areas or who's trunks are within 25' of impervious areas can qualify as interceptor trees.
- All calculations shall be completed using the "Storm Water Calculator" available at www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

A maintenance plan shall be provided with the Final SWLID Submittal. The maintenance plan shall include recommended maintenance practices, state the parties responsible for maintenance and upkeep, specify the funding source for ongoing maintenance with provisions for full replacement when necessary, and provide site specific inspection checklist.

At a minimum inspection and maintenance shall include the following:

- Annual inspection prior to the rainy season.
- Annual proper watering and application of mulch.
- Routine pruning and weeding as needed.
- Replacement of trees as needed.