

City of Southfield Residential Final Tree/Landscaping Inspection Checklist

- Obtain approval from the Engineering Department for final grading.
- Review the categories for restoration measures listed below prior to scheduling a final landscape inspection.
- Schedule a final landscape inspection with Souzan Hanna of the Planning Department by email: shanna@cityofsouthfield.com or direct line: 248-796-4156. Final landscaping can include seed, sod, and/or mulch. Depending on the project, additional landscaping measures can also include planting of vegetation, tree planting, and final restoration of the disturbed site.

SEEDING

- Remove all weeds prior to implementation of seeding and other restoration measures.
- Disturbed areas to be raked with seed or hydroseeded (seed/fertilizer/mulch mix) or seeded and mulched to prevent water and wind erosion as well as prevent ingestion by birds.

SOD

- Use a brick pattern when laying sod with off-setting seams.
- Place the sod pieces together as tightly as possible to prevent weeds from pushing through the seams and to retain moisture.

MULCH

- Per Section 5.31(21)(b)(8)(g) of the City Code of Ordinances – Lawn trees are to be mulched with a minimum of four (4) foot wide by four (4) inch deep shredded bark rings or other approved design for trunk protection. Only natural-colored shredded hardwood bark mulch will be accepted. Remove mulch two (2) to three (3) inches away from the trunk of the tree to avoid rotting the trunk. Existing ring is mulched all the way to the tree trunks. Extend the mulch out to at least the drip line (edge of the branches).

VEGETATION

- All plantings must adhere to the approved landscaping plan.
- Any deviations from the approved landscaping plan must be documented by generating an as-built plan and submitting the as-built plan to the Planning Department.

TREE PLANTING

- Tree plantings must adhere to the approved landscape plan.
- Any deviations from the approved landscaping plan must be documented by generating an as-built plan and submitting the as-built plan to the Planning Department.
- If tree replacements for a property are required as part of a tree bond, then tree replacement requirements must adhere to Section 5.56 (12) of the City Code of Ordinances. Tree bond refunds will be initiated once an inspection has been approved.

EXAMPLES OF APPROVED LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

Seeding and Straw Mat



Hydroseeding



Sod and Mulch

