Sensitive Area Protection

Location of Sensitive Area Protection

Methods of Sensitive Area Protection

*5' min. setback applies to all sensitive areas covered by this specification.

Source:
Adapted from VA ESC Handbook

Symbol:
SAP

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DE-ESC-3.7.2
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Construction Notes:

Fencing shall be installed at the extents of all sensitive areas. For trees, the fencing shall be installed outside the dripline (mature canopy) and at no time within 5 feet of the trunk. Personnel must be instructed to honor protective devices. The devices described are suggested only, and are not intended to exclude the use of other devices which will protect the trees to be retained. If silt fence is to be used for demarcation purposes, appropriate signage shall be provided a minimum of every 20 feet denoting the area as a sensitive area protection zone.

Materials:

1. Snow Fence - Standard 40-inch high snow fence shall be placed at the limits of clearing or construction on standard steel posts set 6 feet apart.

2. Board Fence - Board fencing consisting of 4-inch square posts set securely in the ground and protruding at least 4 feet above the ground shall be placed at the limits of clearing with a minimum of two horizontal boards between posts. For tree protection, if it is not practical to erect a fence at the drip line, construct a triangular fence nearer the trunk. The limits of clearing will still be located at the drip line, since the root zone within the drip line will still require protection.

3. Plastic Fencing - 40-inch high “international orange” plastic (polyethylene) web fencing secured to conventional metal “T” or “U” posts driven to a minimum depth of 18 inches on 6-foot minimum centers shall be installed at the limits of clearing. The fence should have the following minimum physical qualities:
   a. Tensile yield: Average 2,000 lbs. per 4-foot width (ASTM D638)
   b. Ultimate tensile yield: Average 2,900 lbs. per 4-foot width (ASTM D638)
   c. Elongation at break (%): Greater than 1000% (ASTM D638)
   d. Chemical resistance: Inert to most chemicals and acids
Standard Detail & Specifications

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4. Cord Fence - Posts with a minimum size of 2 inches square or 2 inches in diameter set securely in the ground and protruding at least 4 feet above the ground shall be placed at the limits of clearing with two rows of cord 1/4-inch or thicker at least 2 feet apart running between posts with strips of colored surveyor’s flagging tied securely to the string at intervals no greater than 3 feet.

5. Earth Berms - Temporary earth berms shall be constructed according to specifications for a Temporary Earth Dike with the base of the berm on the sensitive area side located along the limits of clearing. Earth berms may not be used for this purpose if their presence will conflict with drainage patterns.

6. Trunk Armoring (Tree Protection Only) - As a last resort, a tree trunk can be armored with burlap wrapping and 2-inch studs wired vertically no more than 2 inches apart to a height of 5 feet encircling the trunk. If this alternative is used, the root zone within the drip line will still require protection. Nothing should ever be nailed to a tree.

Maintenance:

Fencing and armoring devices shall be in place before any excavation or grading is begun, shall be kept in good repair for the duration of construction activities, and shall be the last items removed during the final cleanup after the completion of the project.

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Symbol: SAP

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