

# ASWP 10 R0

## Arborist Transplanting Woody Plants



### Revision History

Version	Revision Date	Brief Description of Revisions
R0	February 2016	Document has been updated to new format.

## ARBORIST SAFE WORK PRACTICES

### DISCLAIMER

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Workplace Safety & Prevention Services wishes to express its appreciation to those who have assisted in the preparation of the **Arborist Safe Work Practices** guide.

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# 1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the safe work practice for manually or mechanically transplanting woody plants.

# 2.0 Hazards

The following hazards have been identified to aid in establishing and maintaining a safe work environment when transplanting woody plants:

- Biotic Conditions
- Cuts and Abrasions
- Climatic Conditions
- Electrical Conditions
- Ergonomics
- Gravity
- Mechanical
- Vehicle and pedestrian traffic

**Note:** The above list of hazards is not a complete list and a thorough job plan should be completed to identify existing hazards found at the work site.

# 3.0 Legislation / Safe Work Practices

The following information has been provided listing relevant arborist safe work practices and legislation requirements:

- ASWP01 General Legislation
- ASWP01 Work in a Safe Environment
- ASWP02 Protect Self and Others
- ASWP02 Arborist Job Planning
- ASWP12 Chainsaw Operation
- Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS)

Legislation	RRO / RSO	Section Referenced
<a href="#">Industrial</a>	851/90	45
<a href="#">Construction</a>	213 / 91	37, 91

## 4.0 Mandatory Information / Work Practices

The following are the general mandatory requirements for an arborist when transplanting woody plants.

- All appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn
- Establish need for locates for underground utilities prior to digging holes
- All mechanical devices for planting trees must be operated by qualified personnel only
- Assistants working around mechanical equipment must be oriented to the hazards of the machine

## 5.0 Work Practice

The following information will provide general information that is required when transplanting woody plants.

Step	Action
Inspect work site	Inspect site for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terrain obstacles.</li> <li>• Obstructions to planting site.</li> <li>• Vehicle and pedestrian traffic.</li> <li>• Overhead utilities.</li> </ul>
Assess for underground obstructions	Assess for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sprinkler system.</li> <li>• Electrical system.</li> <li>• Communications conductors.</li> <li>• Gas line.</li> </ul> <b>Note:</b> Locates shall be established.
Dig hole <b>Note:</b> Manual or mechanical means can be used to dig holes.	<u><b>Manual</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure appropriate body positioning is used</li> </ul> <u><b>Mechanical</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure ground terrain is not hazardous for the machine used and potential for rolling over</li> <li>• Keep away from pinch points of machines used</li> <li>• Monitor loads on machine</li> </ul>
Place tree into hole (Figure 1) <b>Figure 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use proper lifting techniques</li> <li>• Use appropriate equipment to move trees</li> </ul>

Step	Action
	
Remove basket, if required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep body parts away from sharp edges of cut baskets</li> <li>• Watch for pinch points of equipment used</li> </ul>
Back fill hole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use appropriate body positioning when back filling</li> <li>• Ensure that sharp edges of baskets will not puncture footwear</li> </ul>
Install anchor system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure underground utilities have been identified prior to installing</li> <li>• Use appropriate body positioning when installing anchors</li> <li>• Install guy anchor at the appropriate angle</li> </ul>