

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.

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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
Industrial	851/90	45
Construction	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">• Terrain obstacles.• Obstructions to planting site.• Vehicle and pedestrian traffic.• Overhead utilities.
Assess for underground obstructions	Assess for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sprinkler system.• Electrical system.• Communications conductors.• Gas line. Note: Locates shall be established.
Dig hole Note: Manual or mechanical means can be used to dig holes.	<u>Manual</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure appropriate body positioning is used <u>Mechanical</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure ground terrain is not hazardous for the machine used and potential for rolling over• Keep away from pinch points of machines used• Monitor loads on machine
Place tree into hole (Figure 1) Figure 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use proper lifting techniques• Use appropriate equipment to move trees

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