



NATIONAL BUILDING CODE

(Part 10, landscaping, signs & outdoor structures)

National Building Code – Part 10

4.1.1 Timing of Construction

Construction work and erosion control applications shall be scheduled and sequenced during dry weather periods when the potential for erosion is the lowest. Slope construction techniques to control erosion shall be used when construction during wet season is unavoidable. Sedimentation collection systems, drainage systems, and runoff diversion devices shall be installed before construction activity. The Landscape Architect/Architect/Engineer-in-charge shall monitor the site conditions and progress of work and schedule appropriate timing and sequencing of construction.

4.1.2 Preservation of Existing Vegetation

Protection of existing vegetation (including trees, shrubs, grasses and other plants) where possible, by preventing disturbance or damage to specified areas during construction is recommended. This practice minimizes the amount of bare soil exposed to erosive forces. All existing vegetation shall be marked on a site survey plan. A tree survey in prescribed format shall be carried out as indicated in Table 3. The landscape plan should indicate trees, which have been preserved, and also those, which had to be transplanted or removed clearly differentiating between these three categories.

Table 3 Plant Material Schedule for Tree Survey

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Girth	Height	Spread	Condition

4.1.2.2 Trees retained on the project site shall be protected during the construction period by following measures:

- a) Damage to roots shall be prevented during trenching, placing backfill, driving or parking heavy equipment, dumping of trash, oil, paint and other materials detrimental to plant health by restricting these activities to outside the area of canopy of trees.
- b) Trees will not be used for support; their trunks shall not be damaged by cutting and carving or by nailing posters, advertisements or other material.
- c) Lighting of fires or carrying out heat or gas emitting construction activity within the ground, covered by canopy of the tree shall not be permitted.
- d) Young trees or saplings identified for preservation (height less than 2.00 m, 0.10 m trunk girth at 1.00 m height from finish ground, 2.00 m crown diameter) within the construction site have to be protected using tree guards of approved specification.
- e) Existing drainage patterns through or into any preservation area shall not be modified unless specifically directed by the Landscape Architect/Architect/Engineer-in-charge.
- f) Existing grades shall be maintained around existing vegetation and lowering or raising the levels around the vegetation is not allowed unless specifically directed by the Landscape Architect/Architect/Engineer-in-charge.

- g) Maintenance activities shall be performed as needed to ensure that the vegetation remains healthy.
- h) The preserved vegetated area shall be inspected by the Landscape Architect/Architect/Engineer-in-charge at regular intervals so that they remain undisturbed. The date of inspection, type of maintenance or restorative action followed shall be recorded in the logbook.

4.1.3 Staging Areas

Measures shall be followed collecting runoff from construction areas and material storage sites; diverting water flow away from such polluted areas, so that pollutants do not mix with storm water runoff undisturbed areas.

Temporary drainage channels, perimeter dike/swale, etc shall be constructed to carry the pollutant-laden water directly to treatment device or facility. The plan shall indicate how the above is accomplished on site, well in advance of the commencing of the construction activity.

4.1.4 Prevention of Topsoil

Topsoil removal and preservation shall be mandatory for development projects larger than 1.00 Hectore. Topsoil shall be stripped to a depth of 200 mm from areas proposed to be occupied by buildings, roads, paved areas and external services. Topsoil is rich in organic content and is essential to establish new vegetation. It shall be stockpiled to a height of 400 mm in designated areas and shall be reapplied to site during plantation of the proposed vegetation. Topsoil shall be separated from subsoil debris and stones larger than 50 mm diameter. The stored topsoil may be used as finished grade for planting areas.

4.1.5 Spill Prevention and Control

Spill prevention and control plans shall be made, clearly stating measures to stop the source of the spill, to contain the spill, to dispose the contaminated material and hazardous wastes, and stating designation of personnel trained to prevent and control spills. Hazardous wastes include pesticides, paints, cleaners, petroleum products, fertilizers and solvents.