

Landscape Establishment Periods

When landscaping or other plantings are installed as part of a project, the contract normally requires that the Contractor perform work, for a specified period, to establish those plantings. The normal establishment period is one year, but the contract may specify a different establishment period.

As stated, the purpose of the establishment work and period is to assure satisfactory growth of the planted materials. It is the intent of an establishment period that all or replacement plants of the original planting will be in place and showing satisfactory growth at the end of the establishment period unless ODOT has determined that specific plantings should not be replaced because:

- Location, soil, drainage, etc. of particular plantings is not acceptable for plantings
- Wildlife has damaged or destroyed plantings
- ODOT forces or public traffic has damaged or destroyed the plantings and ODOT does not wish to replace them
- Other reasons as determined by the Engineer.

Establishment includes the items specified in the contract, including:

- Watering plants or assuring that irrigation provides adequate watering
- Removing weeds and other unwanted vegetation
- Fertilizing as specified
- Removing and replacing dead, diseased, or missing plantings
- Spraying for or otherwise controlling pests
- Accomplishing other changes, ordered by the Project Manager, to assure that the planting will achieve the desired intent

The Contractor must accomplish the specified work no less frequently than the intervals specified in the contract. It may have to perform some of the work at more frequent intervals to assure the establishment of the plantings and minimize the growth of unwanted plants.

If the Project Manager modifies anything about the contract requirements for the establishment period, including modifying the final number of plants to be established or remain in place, the Project Manager must issue a Contract Change Order to document the changes. If the changes affect the bid price for the affected items, the Project Manager must modify the bid price as well. Refer to the Change Orders/Force Account/Work by Public Forces section (15) of this Manual.

The Project Manager must:

- Assure that the Contractor is performing the establishment work no less frequently than required by contract, including replacing dead plants and removing unwanted vegetation
- Inspect the project at the times specified in the contract

- Pay the Contractor as specified in the contract for establishment
- Make other changes in payment or the plantings to correct site issues and issue a Contract Change Order to document those changes

Contact the Landscape Unit in the Roadway Engineering Section for technical questions. Contact the Contract Services Group of the Construction Section regarding questions on contract administration, payment, or documentation.

Issue Third Notification when appropriate. Also refer to the Contract Time section (13) and the Third Notification section (40) of this Manual.