

SECTION 02936

VEGETATION ESTABLISHMENT PERIOD

PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 SECTION INCLUDES

- A. Establish and care for plantings requiring watering.

1.2 ESTABLISHMENT PERIOD

- A. A length of time during which the Contractor is responsible for caring for and establishing plant material installed on the project.
- B. The establishment period begins after the irrigation system and plant installation inspections and acceptance have been completed and continues for one calendar year, or as otherwise specified in the contract.

1.3 PAYMENT PROCEDURES

- A. When there is no bid item included in the proposal for “Vegetation Establishment Period:”
 - 1. This work is considered incidental to other items of work and no separate measurement or payment will be made.
 - 2. Include all costs in other items of work.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. The Department conducts three inspections to determine if the Contractor is satisfactorily performing work under the Establishment Period. The inspections occur at the Engineer’s discretion.
- B. Replace in kind any dead or unacceptable plant or sod within four weeks of notification at no additional cost to the Department.
- C. At the end of the establishment period and after all unacceptable plants have been replaced, the Engineer accepts the plants in writing and relieves the Contractor of further responsibility for that portion of the project.

PART 2 PRODUCTS Not Used.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 INSTALLATION

- A. Establish healthy trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and turf installed on the project.
- B. Replace any plant or sod that dies or is unacceptable during the establishment period with an identical plant at no additional cost to the Department.
- C. Not be held responsible for plants damaged due to acts of nature, vandalism, or errant vehicles. Immediately notify the Engineer if such an event occurs.

3.2 PLANT CARE

- A. Watering:
 - 1. Pressurized irrigation system: When a pressurized irrigation system has been installed to establish plant material or turf, set the controller to apply the appropriate amount of water and make seasonal adjustments as necessary.
 - 2. Hand watering: If a pressurized irrigation system is not included in the project, hand-water the plant to provide healthy plant material through the establishment period.
- B. Maintain weed-free plant basins or areas where mulch has been placed.
- C. Prune broken, dead, or diseased branches to the next lead.
- D. Repair any non-functional water basins.

3.3 LAWN CARE

- A. Apply a 16-0-0 (NPK ratio) fertilizer once in the fall following manufacturer's recommendation.
- B. Control broadleaf weeds using a selective herbicide as required.
- C. Repair and reseed or resod areas showing rodent or erosion damage.

3.4 LAWN MOWING AND TRIMMING

- A. When turf has established, begin mowing lawn a minimum of one time per week during the morning (7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.) or evening (5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- B. Set mower to cut the grass at a 3-inch height. Keep mower blades sharp.
- C. Bag all grass clippings unless a mulching mower is used.
- D. After mowing, trim along sidewalks, curbs and mow strips. Trim to the same height as the mower cuts (3 inches).

3.5 PRESSURIZED IRRIGATION SYSTEM

- A. If an irrigation system is installed to establish plant materials or turf, the following is required:
 - 1. Repair or replace any component that does not allow the irrigation system to operate properly. Use replacement parts of the same type and make.
 - 2. Repair any erosion caused by leaking or broken irrigation equipment.
 - 3. Repair any settling occurring around valve boxes or trenches.
 - 4. If irrigation breaks or subsequent repairs damage installed plants, sod, or seeded areas, replace according to plan.
 - 5. Winterize the system in the fall by turning off the water and blowing out all supply, main, and lateral lines using an air compressor with a maximum 100 psi, and following established procedures. Coordinate with the Engineer.
 - 6. Replace at Contractor's expense any irrigation system component that breaks as a result of improper winterization.

END OF SECTION