# ITEM 102.511 TREE PROTECTION – ARMORING AND PRUNING EACH

# *REV. 2024.11.22 (REV. DATE TO BE REMOVED BY CONTRACTS)*

The work under this item shall conform to the relevant provisions of Sections 771 of the Standard Specifications and the following:

Tree protection – armoring and pruning shall be used for instances where construction activity (the use of heavy equipment), comes within proximity to potentially damage tree trunk(s) or limbs.

The work shall include the furnishing and installing of temporary tree trunk protection, minor limb pruning, or removal of lower tree limbs to prevent injury to the tree from construction equipment and activities; as shown on the Drawings; and/or as required by the Engineer.

## **REFERENCES**

If requested, the Contractor shall provide to the Engineer one copy of the latest edition of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 Standard Practices for Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance: Part 1-Pruning and Part 5-Construction Management Standard. Provision of reference shall be incidental to this item.

## **MATERIALS**

Trunk armoring shall be such that it prevents damage to the trunk from construction equipment. Material used for trunk armoring or mounting shall be such that installation and removal shall not damage the trunk.

Acceptable trunk armoring materials shall include two by four (2x4) wood cladding, mounted with wire or metal strapping, or when duration of construction activities is less than three months, slotted corrugated plastic pipe, mounted with duct tape. Eight (8) once untreated burlap shall be used to wrap the tree trunk prior to installation of cladding.

Alternative armoring methods or materials may be acceptable if approved by the Engineer.

The height of tree trunk cladding shall be measured from the base of the tree (including root flare) to the bottom of the first branch, or to a height of eight (8) feet, or as may be required by the Engineer.

## **METHODS OF WORK**

Prior to construction activities, the Engineer, Contractor, and the Arborist (if item is included in the contract), shall review trees noted on the Drawings to be protected. Final decision and selection of trees to be armored and/or pruned shall be per the Engineer.

Care shall be taken to avoid damage to the bark during installation and removal of armoring. Trunk armoring shall be maintained such that it is effective for as long as required or replaced when materials are found to be damaged or ineffective, as determined by the Engineer. Replacement, if required, shall be incidental to the work. Armoring shall be removed immediately upon completion of work activities adjacent to the protected tree(s).

Pruning of limbs shall conform to the techniques and standards of the most recent ANSI A300 standards.

**DAMAGES OR LOSS**

If trees designated for protection under this item are damaged, including root damage from unapproved trespassing onto the root zone, the Contractor shall, at his own expense, secure the services of an Arborist, described in Item 102.55. The Arborist shall be approved by MassDOT.

If, based on the recommendation of the Arborist, the Engineer determines that damages can be remedied by corrective measures, such as repairing trunk or limb injury; soil compaction remediation; pruning; soil injection fertilization; and/or watering; the damage shall be repaired as soon as possible, within the appropriate season for such work and according to industry standards.

If, based on the recommendation of the Arborist, the Engineer determines that damages are irreparable, or that the damages are such that the tree is sufficiently compromised to pose a future safety hazard, the tree shall be removed. Tree removal shall include cleanup of all wood, grinding of the stump to a depth sufficient to plant a replacement tree or plant, removal of all chips from the stump site, and filling the resulting hole with topsoil. Such tree removal(s), grinding, debris removal, and topsoil filling, shall be at the Contractor’s expense.

Tree removal from improper or inadequate tree protection shall result in the Engineer assessing the Contractor monetary damages consistent with industry standards for assessed value and/or replacement.

## **METHOD OF MEASUREMENT AND BASIS OF PAYMENT**

Item 102.511 will be measured and paid at the contract unit price per EACH tree to be armored and pruned. This will include full compensation for all labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals for the satisfactory completion of the work and the subsequent removal and satisfactory disposal of the protective materials upon completion of the contract or as required by the Engineer.

Payment for work under this item will be scheduled as follows:

* 40% of the value shall be paid upon installation of trunk armoring and completion of pruning work, if required.
* 60% of the value shall be paid at the end of construction operations that would potentially damage the tree and after protection materials have been removed and properly disposed of by the Contractor. In the event of repairable damages, payment shall be made after the completion of remediation measures.

No separate payment will be made for costs of remedial actions, including Arborist services, tree removal, but all costs in connection therewith shall be included in the Contract unit price bid.

Tree damages assessed, due to lack of or improper tree and plant protective measures being taken, shall be deducted from the contract price of the work.