

## CHANGE LOG

### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN GUIDE



CHAPTER NO./TITLE 13. Landscape and Aesthetics

EFFECTIVE DATE October 4, 2023

| SECTION                                   | CHANGE  |
|---|---|
| General                                   | Updated agency name to MassDOT throughout.  |
| General                                   | Various minor grammatical changes and nomenclature changes for consistency and readability.   |
| General                                   | Added hyperlinks to external resources.   |
| 13.4 Landscape Design<br>General Guidance | <p>Changed section title "Landscape Design Guidance" to "Landscape Design General Guidance." Reorganized content under three sections: "Plant Protection and Preservation" and "Restoration and Enhancement." Guidance for naturalized areas and for urban/suburban areas are organized under these subsections.</p> <p>Plant Protection and Preservation:<br/>Trees: Moved existing content under "Plant Preservation for Urban/Suburban Areas."</p> |

| SECTION   | CHANGE  |
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| 13.4 Landscape Design<br>General Guidance:<br>Restoration and<br>Enhancement in<br>Naturalized Areas: | <p>Changed subsection title from "Natural Site Landscape Treatments" to "Restoration and Enhancement in Naturalized Areas." The intent of this section is to encompass all guidance related to non-urban and natural sites. This section contains the following changes:</p> <p>Design to Accommodate Roadway Maintenance: Changed dimensions of pavement edge where planting woody material should be avoided.</p> <p>Buffers and screening: Minor updates to wording. Removed the bullet on "Framing Views."</p> <p>Medians in Natural Sites: Minor updates to wording.</p> <p>Steep Slope Conditions: Added two bullet points about native grasses and biodegradable erosion control. Added compost blanket surfacing as a technique for slope stabilization. Removed the bullet on locating trees and shrubs away from channel bottoms and slope toes.</p> <p>Reinforced Slopes: Removed paragraph on retaining walls and reinforced slope. Removed "Bioengineering Stabilization with Stone" figure due to limited planting in practice.</p> <p>Bio-engineering and Stream Bank Stabilization: Removed two bullet points regarding hand placement of stems and dormant cuttings.</p> <p>Storm Water Management Facilities: Minor updates to wording. Replaced reference to MassHighway Storm Water Handbook with reference to Chapter 8.</p> <p>Wetland Mitigation: Changed section title from "Wetland Replacement" to "Wetland Mitigation." Added reference to MassDOT Wetland Design Guidance added.</p> <p>Integrating Planting with Highway Structures: Added section. Combined considerations for bridges and waterways. Moved content</p> |

| SECTION   | CHANGE  |
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| 13.4 Landscape Design<br>General Guidance:<br>Restoration and<br>Enhancement in<br>Urban/Suburban Corridors | <p>Changed subsection titled from "Streetscapes" to "Restoration and Enhancement in Urban/Suburban Corridors."</p> <p>Sidewalks (2006 Edition): Removed this section because sidewalk design is covered in other chapters.</p> <p>Locating Street Trees: Changed section title from "Street Trees" to "Locating Street Trees." Removed recommended street tree table, as recommendations keep changing. Edited section to clarify and update to current practices on locating trees in urban environments.</p> <p>Median and Island Plantings in Urban Areas: Added maintenance guidance. Added link to Roundabout Planning and Design Guide.</p> <p>Pavement Surfaces: Changed section title from "Aesthetic Pavement Surfaces" to "Pavement Surfaces." Moved section to after "Median and Island Plantings in Urban Areas."</p> <p>Bicycle Racks: Added considerations for the number of spaces and placement of racks.</p>   |
| 13.5 Plant Material<br>Selection  | <p>Moved considerations for environmental conditions to analyze to guide the location and selection of species for roadsides from "13.2 Corridor Considerations" (2006 Edition) to the introduction of this section. This section contains the following changes:</p> <p>General Plant Material Selection Guidelines: Removed reference to the 1994 Executive Memorandum on Environmentally Beneficial Landscaping. Removed mention of less common native species. Removed reference to common invasive species that should no longer be used. Removed the sections "Potentially Invasive Plants" and "Selective List of Invasive or Potentially Invasive Ornamental Plants."</p> <p>Plant Selection for Urban Area: Changed section title from "Plant Selection for Streetscapes" to "Plant Selection for Urban Areas". Added recommendation to coordinate with Town Tree Warden and local Master Plans. Removed subsection "Recommended Species for Urban Conditions" and integrated into main section with minor updates to wording. Removed exhibit with "Suggested Street Trees."</p> <p>Plant Selection for Natural Sites: Minor updates to wording. Removed reference to horizontal and vertical layering.</p> <p>Grassland Restoration: Previously, this section was a subsection of "Plant Selection for Natural Sites" and was called "Cultivating Grasses and Wildflower Meadows. Moved to its own section with minor updates to wording. Removed information on seeding</p> |
| 13.6 Plant Care   | <p>Added section and added reference to MassDOT Plant Care &amp; Management resources. This section partially replaces the 2006 "Plant Protection and Preservation" section, which has been moved under "Landscape Design General Guidance."</p>  |

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| 13.7 Plans and Documentation | No changes to this section.       |
| 13.8 For Further Information | Updated references and resources. |