

5.7 DUMPSTER ENCLOSURE

All dumpster enclosures shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Dumpsters shall be completely enclosed and secured by a decorative masonry screen wall on three sides, and steel reinforced, opaque and lockable wooden gates.
2. The type, color, and pattern of the enclosure materials shall match or complement the exterior façade materials of the building and meet the architectural standards in Section 5.24 if applicable.
3. The height of the enclosure shall be sufficient to completely screen all dumpsters and materials, a minimum of six (6) feet in height.
4. The bottom surface within the enclosure shall be constructed of eight (8) inch thick, reinforced concrete and shall extend a minimum of ten (10) feet in front of the enclosure.

5.11 LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING

1. Intent and Scope of Requirements

A. Intent. Landscaping enhances the visual image of the Township, preserving natural features, improving property values, and alleviating the impact of noise, traffic, and visual distraction associated with certain uses. Screening is important to protect less intensive uses from the noise, light, traffic, litter and other impacts of more intensive, nonresidential uses. Lighting and sidewalks create, where appropriate, an important part of the Township's visual image. These provisions are intended to set minimum standards for the design and use of landscaping, greenbelts, screening, lighting, and walkways, and for the protection and enhancement of the Township's environment. More specifically, the intent of these provisions is to:

- i. Improve the appearance of off-street parking areas, vehicular use areas, and property abutting public rights-of-way,
- ii. Protect and preserve the appearance, character, and value of the neighborhoods that abut non-residential areas, parking areas, and other intensive use areas, thereby protecting the public health, safety and welfare,
- iii. Create a safe and efficient means of pedestrian circulation,
- iv. Reduce soil erosion and depletion, and v. Increase soil water retention, thereby helping to prevent flooding.

B. Scope of Requirements. A detailed landscape plan shall be submitted as part of the site plan review process in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 6.1, Site Plan Review. No site plan shall be approved unless it shows landscaping, screening, buffering, grading, walls, fencing, lighting and sidewalks consistent with the requirements of this Ordinance. Landscaping shall include plant materials such as trees, shrubs, ground covers, perennial and annual plants; landscape elements such as rocks, water features, fences, walls, paving materials, and site lighting; and site furnishings such as benches,

drinking fountains, trash receptacles, and planters. All graphics, contained in this Section, are for illustrative purposes only. The requirements in this Section shall not apply to single family detached homes, unless otherwise specifically noted.

C. Minimum Requirements. The requirements in this Section are minimum requirements, and under no circumstances shall they preclude the developer and the Township from agreeing to more extensive standards.

D. Design Creativity for Landscaping. Creativity in landscape design is encouraged. Accordingly, required trees and shrubs may be planted at uniform intervals, at random, or in groupings, depending on the designer's desired visual effect. The developer and landscape professional shall work with the Township to ensure consistency with the character of the area, providing the massing and visual interest to enhance the architecture and ensure coordination of the proposed landscaping with adjoining properties and throughout the community.

Whenever a landscape plan is required under the provisions of the Ordinance a detailed planting plan of said improvements shall be submitted and approved with the site plan prior to the issuance of a land use permit. Unless waived by the Planning Commission, or the Planning Department reviewing the plan, the plan shall be prepared by a landscape architect, registered in the State of Michigan. A waiver could include the following:

- i. Minor site plan amendment as outlined in Section 6.1.10 of the Zoning Ordinance.
- ii. Agricultural operation
- iii. Adding a drive-through window in an existing building.
- iv. Building addition less than ten percent (10%) of the overall existing building size.
- v. Addition of parking spaces that include screening consistent with previously approved landscape plan.
- vi. Any other site improvement where the Planning Commission deems such improvements does not require a plan prepared by a registered landscape architect.

2. General Landscaping Requirements

A. General Requirements

i. Standards. All developed portions of the site shall conform to the following general landscaping standards, except where specific landscape elements, such as a greenbelt, berm, or screening are required. All unpaved portions of the site shall be planted with grass, ground cover, shrubbery, or other suitable live plant material, which shall extend to any abutting street pavement edge, unless an alternate material is approved by the Planning Commission.

ii. All planting beds with shrub or groundcover requirements shall provide a minimum eighty percent (80%) ground coverage within two (2) years of planting.

iii. Units of Measurement. For purposes of determining the minimum number of live plant materials required for a site, when the calculation results in a fractional number, any fraction of less than one-half (1/2) may be disregarded, while a fraction of one-half (1/2) or more shall be counted as a requirement for one plant.

iv. Lot Frontage Measurement. For purposes of determining the minimum number of live plant materials required for a site, lot frontage shall mean the distance between the two side lot lines of a lot or parcel of land as measured at the road and shall include any openings for driveways, sidewalk, or easements.

v. Maintenance of Unobstructed Visibility. No landscaping shall be established or maintained on any parcel or in any parking lot that will obstruct the view of drivers. Accordingly, all landscaping shall comply with the provisions concerning clear vision area set forth in Section 5.1, Clear Vision Area.

vi. Utility Clearance. In no case shall landscaping material be planted in a way that will interfere with or cause damage to underground utility lines, public roads, or other public facilities. Species of trees whose roots are known to cause damage to public roadways, sewers, or other utilities shall not be planted closer than fifteen (15) feet from any such roadways, sewers, or utilities. Trees shall be setback from overhead utility lines as indicated in Table 5.11.2.A.vi, Utility Clearance.

vii. Landscaping of Divider Medians. Where traffic on driveways, maneuvering lanes, private roads, or similar vehicle access ways are separated by a divider median, the median shall be curbed and have a minimum width of ten (10) feet. A minimum of one (1) canopy or evergreen tree shall be planted for the initial twenty five (25) lineal feet or portion thereof plus one (1) additional canopy or evergreen tree for every increment of twenty five (25) lineal feet. Trees may be planted at uniform intervals, at random, or in groupings, but in no instance shall the center-to-center distance between trees exceed sixty (60) feet. The ground surface shall be covered with grass, groundcover, shrubbery or other live plant material to meet ground coverage in Section 5.11.2.A.ii.

viii. Irrigation. To assist in maintaining plant materials in a healthy condition, all landscaped areas (including lawns) shall be provided with an automatic, underground, or drip irrigation system, subject to the following:

a. All automatic irrigation systems shall be designed to minimize water usage, have rain sensors, and shall be shut off during water emergencies, periods of protracted rainfall, or water rationing periods.

b. The irrigation requirement may be waived by the reviewing authority if the project incorporates landscaping that will contribute points towards LEED certification or an equivalent rating system.

B. General Site Landscaping

i. Site landscaping is required by this Section in five general areas: greenbelt; foundation; parking lot interior and perimeter; retention/detention facilities; and, screening and buffering. As part of site plan review, the applicant shall identify the minimum number of trees and shrubs required to meet the general areas described in this Section.

The Planning Commission may allow substitutions to Section 5.11.3.C, Plant Material Specifications when it finds that the intent of this Ordinance would be met, and the landscape plan enhanced through the modification.

ii. Landscaping may include the preservation of existing trees and shrubs along with new trees, shrubs, grass, ground cover, and other living plant material. Preserved landscaping shall meet the intent and quality as required by this Section.

iii. Treatment of Existing Plant Material. The following regulations shall apply to existing plant material:

a. Consideration of Existing Elements in the Landscape Design.

(1) In instances where healthy plant material exists on a site prior to its development, the Planning Commission may permit substitution of such plant material in place of the requirements set forth in this Section, provided such substitution is in keeping with the spirit and intent of this Ordinance. In order to satisfy the landscape requirements the preserved trees shall be of high quality and a minimum of four (4) inch caliper measured twelve (12) inches above grade and located within the developed portion of the site.

(2) In no case shall the minimum number of required trees be reduced by more than fifty percent (50%) through the use of the preserved trees.

(3) Existing trees, berms, walls, or other landscape elements may be used to satisfy the requirements set forth, provided that such landscaping is in conformance with the requirements of this Section.

b. Preservation of Existing Plant Material

(1) Trees

(a) The plans shall show all existing trees which are located in the portions of the site that will be built upon or otherwise altered and are four (4) inches or greater in caliper.

(b) If existing trees are proposed to remain and be used to meet tree requirements a tree survey, prepared by a professional land surveyor, shall be submitted showing all trees to be preserved. Tree size (height or trunk diameter), species and condition of the tree shall be provided on the survey.

(2) Trees and Other Plantings

(a) Trees and plantings shall be labeled "To Be Removed" or "To Be Saved" on the site plan. If existing plant material is labeled "To Be Saved" on the site plan, protective measures should be implemented,

such as the placement of fencing at the drip line around each tree or planting bed. Protective fencing shall be installed prior to the commencement of any construction activities. No vehicle or other construction equipment or materials shall be parked or stored within the drip line of any tree or other plant material intended to be saved. Refer to Figure ____.

(b) If existing tree(s) and plant material to be saved are not being watered by an irrigation system currently, they are not required to receive irrigation.

(c) In the event that healthy plant materials which are intended to meet the requirements of the Ordinance are cut down, damaged or destroyed during construction, said plant material shall be replaced with plantings to meet all other requirements. A modified landscape plan shall be submitted to the Township showing the replacement of the damaged or removed plantings and the proposed replacement to the Zoning Administrator for review and approval. The Zoning Administrator, at his/her discretion, may require Planning Commission review and approval.

C. Greenbelt

i. A greenbelt shall be planted along any public or private road right-of-way within the first thirty (30) feet of the property, see 5.11.2.B.i, General Site Landscaping. Plantings may occur within the right-of-way, private property or a combination of both. If the plantings are not permitted within the first thirty (30) feet of the property, due to conflicts with utilities, sight lines or other right-of-way encumbrances, the Planning Commission may allow the planting elsewhere within the required front yard setback if it finds the intent of the greenbelt is still met. The greenbelt shall meet the following standards:

a. The greenbelt shall be a minimum of twenty (20) feet wide and shall generally run parallel to the public or private right-of-way, excluding regulated wetlands. The greenbelt should be arranged to simulate a natural setting with staggered or clustered plantings, except where a more traditional or formal design is appropriate for the development and surrounding area and will meet the intent of this Section.

b. The greenbelt shall include one (1) canopy tree for every thirty (30) linear feet or portion thereof of lot frontage. For example, eighty (80) feet of frontage shall require three (3) canopy trees. The Planning Commission may approve a substitution of evergreen trees for up to fifty percent (50%) of the canopy trees.

c. The greenbelt shall include three (3) small deciduous ornamental trees or large deciduous or evergreen shrubs for the initial forty (40) linear feet or portion thereof of lot frontage. Thereafter, one (1) additional small deciduous ornamental tree or large deciduous or evergreen shrub shall be required for every twenty (20) feet or portion thereof of lot frontage. For example, eighty (80) feet of frontage shall require five (5) ornamental trees or large shrubs.

d. The greenbelt shall be planted with grass, groundcover, shrubbery or other live plant material, other than those areas used as drives, sidewalks or other approved structures and areas where live plant material would not survive.

e. Public rights-of-way located adjacent to required landscaped areas and greenbelts shall be maintained by the owner or occupant of the adjacent property as if the rights-of-way were part of the required landscaped areas or greenbelts. No plantings except grass or ground cover shall be permitted closer than three (3) feet from the edge of the road pavement.

f. The Planning Commission may determine that existing trees which are preserved within the road right-of-way, easement or determined greenbelt area may meet all or part of the requirement based on their location, species, size and integration into the overall landscape plan. Preservation of the trees located within the right-of-way must be confirmed in writing by all agencies having an easement over said right-of-way prior to site plan review.

g. In instances where the greenbelt is adjacent to a parking area, the greenbelt shrubs may be used to provide the required screening as outlined in Section 5.11.2.E. Perimeter Parking Lot Landscaping.

ii. A minimum fifteen (15) foot wide landscape area shall be provided along the length of internal roadways providing shared public access to the site. The landscape area shall be planted with a minimum of one (1) canopy or evergreen tree for every thirty (30) feet or portion thereof. Where an internal roadway abuts a parking area, screening shall be provided per Section 5.11.2.E.ii.

D. Foundation Landscaping

i. Foundation landscaping shall be required to visually break up the mass of buildings in accordance with the following requirements and as illustrated in Figure 5.11.2.B.i., General Site Landscaping. Foundation landscape areas can be a combination of lawn and plantings.

a. The length of this planting area must equal at least sixty percent (60%) of front and sides of the building length along the front and sides of buildings which face a public or private road, is adjacent to a parking lot or other areas which provide access to the building(s) or adjacent to a developable site or area.

b. Landscape areas shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet in width and be located adjacent to the building.

c. Plantings shall contain a minimum of one (1) deciduous ornamental tree or columnar tree and six (6) large shrubs or eight (8) small shrubs for every thirty (30) lineal feet of building length or portion thereof. Landscape areas shall meet minimum coverage per Section 5.11.2.A.ii.

d. Permanent raised landscape planters which are designed as an integral part of the pedestrian walkway may be used to satisfy the foundation landscape requirement, as long as all plant material coverage requirements are met, and planter dimensions provide appropriate growing conditions.

e. Where arcades are used across a building's façade, trees may be used in lieu of shrub plantings and satisfy the requirements for foundation plantings. A minimum of one (1) canopy or evergreen tree per thirty (30) lineal feet of building frontage is required.

f. Buildings that are taller than one story, or building height is twenty (20) feet or greater, or are longer than seventy (70) feet shall be required to increase the massing of the foundation landscaping proportionately through modification in the required number of plants, size of the plants at time of planting and/or a change to a larger tree or shrub species.

E. Parking Lot Landscaping. Off-street parking areas containing ten (10) or more parking spaces shall provide landscaping in accordance with the following requirements and as illustrated in Figure 5.11.2.B.i., General Site Landscaping:

i. Interior Areas. Each separate landscape area within a parking lot shall be adequately planted and maintained and shall be located in such a manner as to divide and breakup the expanse of pavement and define parking areas and circulation paths. The following specific standards apply:

a. Unless otherwise approved by the Planning Commission, landscaped endcaps shall be installed at each terminus of the row of parking. Endcaps shall also be used to direct vehicles into the drive aisle and further define the designated parking area.

b. A landscape island shall be required at intervals, not to exceed fifteen (15) continuous parking spaces.

c. Landscaped areas in parking lots shall be no less than ten (10) feet in any single dimension and no less than one hundred eighty (180) square feet. To improve visibility and maneuvering, the length of the landscaped areas shall be two (2) feet less than the adjacent parking stalls. Landscaped areas in or adjacent to parking lots shall be protected with curbing or other means to prevent encroachment of vehicles.

d. Requirements for plant material shall be based on the location, size, and shape of the parking lot landscaped area to achieve the following goals:

(1) Mitigate heat from parking lot pavement:

(a) All parking lot islands shall be planted with canopy trees at a minimum rate of one (1) tree per one hundred eighty (180) square feet or a fraction thereof.

(b) All parking lot islands shall be crowned and covered with lawn or live plant material to meet minimum ground coverage requirements per Section 5.11.2.A.i.

(2) Screening large expanses of parking lot pavement. Islands located on the perimeter of parking areas shall be planted to provide a twenty four (24) to thirty (30) inch in height screen to meet minimum ground coverage requirements per Section 5.11.2.A.i.

Refer to figures 5.11.2.B.i and 5.11.2.E.i for additional clarification.

e. Plantings within parking lots shall comply with the requirements for clear vision set forth in Section 5.1, Clear Vision Area. The landscape plan shall indicate the type, size, and quantity of plant material proposed for such areas.

f. Where the installation of interior parking lot landscaping would impede circulation or prevent routine maintenance, the Planning Commission may approve alternative landscaping.

g. The Planning Commission may require evergreen trees where visibility is not an issue and screening or buffering would be beneficial.

ii. Perimeter Areas. For purposes of this Section the perimeter area measures fifteen (15) feet in width from the edge of the parking lot or drive aisle measured from the back of curb and the length of the abutting parking aisle. To minimize the conflict between parking lots and public or private roads and neighboring uses, the perimeter of the parking lot shall be screened in accordance with the following standards:

a. Parking lots shall be effectively screened or buffered from the public right of way, private road, or internal roadway with one or more of the following landscaping designs:

(1) Landscape berm a minimum of two (2) feet in height and planted with a combination of evergreen and deciduous shrubs to effectively screen vehicles and associated headlights all year long.

(2) Evergreen hedge row a minimum of three (3) feet in height within two (2) years of planting, planted in a row or staggered to create continuous screening. In no case shall an evergreen hedge be less than thirty (30) inches at the time of planting.

(3) A decorative screening wall a minimum of three (3) feet in height located adjacent to the parking lot.

(4) The Planning Commission may permit modifications to the screening requirement including the use of ornamental fencing or other decorative elements where a greater setback, natural landscaping or topography, or unique site layout would allow for a lesser or modified screening requirement.

b. Perimeter areas not visible from a public road that do not have other screening requirements such as screening between properties, shall be landscaped with a minimum of one (1) canopy tree with four (4) large shrubs or one (1) evergreen tree for every thirty (30) lineal feet or portion thereof. The Planning Commission may require additional plantings where the proposed intensity of land uses deviate from the existing adjacent land uses or zoning district.

iii. Cart Corrals. Shopping cart corrals provided in parking areas shall be designed as an integral part of a parking lot landscape island(s). The cart corral area shall be a maximum of ten (10) feet in width and two (2) feet less in depth than the adjacent parking stalls. The cart corral area shall be flanked on each side by a crowned landscape area a minimum of eight (8) feet in width and extending the full depth of the cart corral and have a minimum six (6) inch concrete curb to contain the carts between the landscape areas. Plantings shall be provided within the landscape areas sufficient to obscure view of stored carts

all year long to a height of three (3) feet. The landscape areas may count towards the interior parking lot landscape requirements. No structures shall be permitted for storage of shopping carts in parking areas.

F. Berms. Where berms are used they shall conform to the following standards:

i. General Requirements. Berms used for screening between land uses shall be landscaped in accordance with Section 5.11.2.G, Buffering or Screening Requirements.

Berms used for screening between parking lots and access rights-of-way shall be landscaped in accordance with the Section 5.11.2.E.ii, Perimeter Parking. The height of berms used to screen off-street parking shall be measured from the adjacent parking lot or right-of-way whichever is higher.

Berms shall be integrated into the site's overall landscape design to provide a natural rhythm and flow between all landscape areas and improvements. The Township encourages berms to undulate in height and vary in contours to create a more natural appearance.

ii. Dimensions. Unless otherwise indicated or appropriate, required berms shall be measured from the grade of the parking lot or flat ground adjacent to the berm, and shall be constructed with slopes no steeper than one (1) foot vertical for each three (3) feet horizontal (thirty-three percent (33%) slope), with at least a four (4) foot wide flatter crest on top.

iii. Protection from Erosion. Any required berm shall be planted with lawn, ground cover, or other suitable live plant material to protect it from erosion so that it retains its height and shape. The Planning Commission may allow the use of hardscape material, including masonry landscape blocks, stones, and other natural and decorative materials to retain the shape and height of a berm.

G. Buffering or Screening Requirements

i. Screening between Land Uses. Upon any improvement or change in use for which a site plan is required, a landscape buffer shall be provided to create a visual screen at least eight (8) feet in height along all adjoining boundaries of a non-residential use or a residential use of higher density and an abutting single family residential zoned property. At the discretion of the Planning Commission, modifications to the required screening may be permitted when alternative screening methods, existing site conditions and/or use of the properties would meet the intent of this Section. The overall height of the visual screen may include the combination of landscape berm and plant material and/or decorative screening walls.

a. When using evergreen trees to meet the screening requirements, plantings shall be spaced no more than twelve (12) feet apart measured on center and shall be planted in a minimum of two (2) rows in a staggered or a clustered pattern with varying tree heights to provide for optimal screening and create a natural looking buffer, see Figure 5.11.2.B.i and 5.11.2.G.i.a. When using a staggered pattern, the minimum spacing between rows shall be ten (10) feet. When using evergreen trees solely to meet screening requirements and to provide an eight (8) foot in height minimum natural looking buffer, evergreen tree heights shall range from a minimum of eight (8) feet to twelve (12) feet in height or taller. Up to sixty percent (60%) of trees can be eight (8) feet in height, thirty percent (30%) shall be at

least ten (10) feet in height and the remaining ten percent (10%) shall be twelve (12) feet in height or taller. Additional deciduous plant materials may be used provided that a complete minimum eight (8) feet in height visual barrier is maintained throughout the year.

b. At the discretion of the Planning Commission, a berm and/or decorative fencing may be required to supplement the plantings. If a decorative wall or fencing is used, landscaping shall be required on the side(s) of the wall facing the residential or agricultural zoned district, visible to the public from the site or adjacent to a developable property. The Planning Commission may require additional plantings adjacent to the wall and development site.

ii. Screening Parking Lots from Public Roads. Parking lots shall be screened from the public roads in accordance with Section 5.11.2.E Perimeter Parking Lot Landscaping.

iii. Screening of Ground Mounted Equipment. Mechanical equipment, such as utility cabinets, transformers, satellite dish antennae a minimum of thirty (30) inches in height, and similar equipment shall be screened on at least three (3) sides using evergreen plantings. Insofar as practical, said screening shall exceed the vertical height of the equipment being screened by at least six (6) inches within two (2) years of planting. Screening of mechanical equipment may also be provided using decorative fences or walls when landscaping is not permitted due to equipment clearance and easement restrictions.

H. Landscaping Requirements for Detention/ Retention Areas. Detention/retention ponds shall be integrated into the overall design of the property and landscaped to provide a natural setting. The design and construction of the detention/retention systems shall be in accordance with Hartland Township Engineering Design Standards. When the detention/retention area is in the form of a basin, the following requirements shall apply:

i. Basins shall have a natural, free-form shape, following existing natural topography to the greatest extent possible. If the site is generally flat, the basin shall be shaped to emulate a naturally formed depression. The basin should be a natural shape, and not square, rectangle or other geometric shape. Side slopes should be varied and undulating, rather than having a uniform grade.

ii. Side slopes of basins shall not exceed one (1) foot vertical for every four (4) feet horizontal. The Planning Commission shall approve perimeter fencing if deemed necessary.

iii. Landscape materials shall be used to integrate the area with the overall landscape design. Where a basin is designed to have permanent water, a fountain or other water feature may be used.

iv. At a minimum, one (1) canopy tree or evergreen tree shall be planted for every fifty (50) lineal feet of basin perimeter as measured along the top of the bank elevation. The required trees shall be planted in a random pattern or in groupings.

v. Basins shall be planted with seed mix or other plantings appropriate to site conditions. All areas to meet vegetation coverage per Section 2.A.ii.

vi. If the detention/retention area is located within the greenbelt, the overall number of plantings required for the greenbelt and detention/retention area may be reduced, at the discretion of the Planning Commission. Refer to Figure 5.11.2.H.1. _____

vii. Where appropriate, the stormwater collection system may include bioswales, rain gardens and other features that allow run-off water to flow through vegetation prior to entering the stormwater management system. Oil and sediment filters, and other best management practices to control the quality of water entering the system are encouraged. If such systems are employed for the stormwater collection system, landscaping requirements around the detention/retention area may be modified at the discretion of the Planning Commission.

3. Standards for Landscape Materials

Unless otherwise specified, all landscape materials shall comply with the following standards:

A. Plant Quality. Plant materials used in compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be nursery grown, free of pests and diseases, hardy in southeastern Michigan, in conformance with the standards of the American Association of Nurserymen, and shall have passed inspections required under state regulations. Plants shall be No. 1 grade with straight unscarred trunk and well developed uniform crown (park grade trees will not be accepted). Plant materials installed in locations in close proximity to areas exhibiting environmental impacts (for example, exhaust fumes, salt runoff) commonly associated with motorized vehicles shall be hardy under such conditions.

B. Non-Living Plant Material. Plastic and other non living plant materials shall not be considered acceptable to meet the landscaping requirements of this Section.

C. Plant Material Specifications

i. Landscaping shall be varied to enhance design creativity and minimize possible landscape loss caused by specie specific disease. Variations to the species shall continue to provide unity in the overall site design. Tree species shall be required to meet the level of diversity noted in the table that follows.

ii. The use of native plant materials to the area and Southeast Michigan and mixture of trees from the same species association is encouraged. Following is a list of suggested plant materials by category:

iii. Use of plant materials that cause disruption to storm drainage or that are susceptible to pests or disease are not encouraged. The following plant materials exhibit such characteristics, and therefore their use is not encouraged in the Township:

- a. Ashes
- b. Elm (American and Siberian)
- c. Box Elder
- d. Tree of Heaven

- e. European Barberry
- f. Northern Catalpa
- g. Poplar
- h. Willow
- i. Maple (Amur, Norway & Silver)
- j. Ginkgo (Female)
- k. Goldenraintree
- l. Black Locust
- m. Honey Locust (with thorns)
- n. Horse Chestnut (Nut Bearing)
- o. Cottonwood
- p. Mulberry

q. Amur Cork Tree iv. The following specifications shall apply to all plant material proposed in accordance with the landscaping requirements of this Ordinance:

a. Canopy Trees. Deciduous canopy trees shall be a minimum of three (3) inches in caliper measured six (6) inches above grade with the first branch a minimum of four (4) feet above grade when planted and not to exceed seven (7) feet above grade when screening is desired.

b. Small Deciduous Ornamental Trees and Large Shrubs. Small deciduous ornamental trees/shrubs shall be a minimum of two (2) inches in caliper measured six (6) inches above grade or six (6) feet in height for clump varieties.

c. Evergreen Trees. Evergreen trees shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet in height when planted, except as otherwise specified in this Ordinance. Furthermore, evergreen trees used for screening shall have a minimum spread of five (5) feet at time of planting. Columnar evergreen trees may be included as part of the overall landscape site design.

d. Large Shrubs. Large shrubs shall be a minimum of thirty (30) inches in height and twenty-four (24) inches in spread when planted when used to screen or buffer, unless otherwise specified in this Ordinance.

e. Small Shrubs. Small shrubs shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) inches in height when planted and shall not be used for screening purposes. Low growing shrubs shall have a minimum spread of twenty-four (24) inches when planted.

f. Ground Cover. Ground cover used in lieu of turf grasses in whole or in part shall be planted in such a manner as to meet coverage requirements per Section 5.11.2.A.ii.

g. Perennials/Annuals/Ornamental Grass. Perennials/Annuals/Ornamental Grass are to be used as accent plantings in addition to the required trees and shrubs.

h. Grass. Grass area shall be planted using species normally grown as permanent lawns in southeast Michigan. Grass, sod, and seed shall be clean and free of weeds, pests, and diseases. Grass may be

sodded or seeded. When grass is to be established by a method other than complete sodding or seeding, nurse grass seed shall be sown for immediate effect and protection until complete coverage is otherwise achieved. Straw or other mulch shall be used to protect newly seeded areas.

i. Mulch. Planting beds shall present a finished appearance with shredded hardwood bark mulch or similar natural material. Mulch used around trees, and shrubs shall be three (3) inches in depth and shall be pulled three (3) inches away from the trunk. Mulch shall be two (2) inches in depth around perennials, groundcover and ornamental grasses. Rock, stone, or gravel is not allowed as mulch in planting beds but could be used for a narrow maintenance strip along a building foundation, with the maintenance strip a maximum of two (2) feet in width.

4. Installation, Irrigation and Maintenance. The following standards shall be observed where installation and maintenance of landscape materials are required:

A. Minimum Standards

i. Time of planting. Landscaping shall be installed in a sound, workmanlike manner to ensure the continued growth of healthy plant material. Trees, shrubs, and planting beds shall be generously mulched at the time of planting.

ii. Irrigation. All landscaped areas shall be provided with an irrigation system in accordance with Section 5.11.2.A.viii, Irrigation.

iii. Support Material Removal. Where required, tree stakes, guy wires and tree wraps are to be removed after one year.

B. Off-Season Planting Requirements. If development is completed during the off season when plants cannot be installed, the owner shall provide a performance guarantee to ensure installation of required landscaping in the next planting season, in accordance with Section 6.4, Performance Guarantees.

C. Phased Projects. Projects that are developed in phases may construct and install landscaping to coordinate with the development schedule. A phasing landscape plan shall be submitted at time of site plan review. Prior to beginning the initial or any subsequent phase, all screening required along the property boundaries adjacent to residentially zoned or used property shall be installed. Where screening material would be destroyed during construction, interim planting materials may be required.

D. Maintenance. Landscaping required by this Ordinance shall be maintained in a healthy, neat, and orderly appearance, free from refuse, debris and weeds. All unhealthy and dead plant material shall be replaced immediately, unless the season is not appropriate for planting, in which case such plant material shall be replaced at the beginning of the next planting season. The developer or owner(s) shall insure perpetual and mandatory maintenance and/or replacement of vegetative plantings pursuant to the approved landscape plan.

E. All constructed or manufactured landscape elements, such as but not limited to benches, retaining walls, edging, and so forth, shall be maintained in good condition and neat appearance. Elements

approved as part of Site Plan approval shall, when necessary, be replaced pursuant to the approved plan.

5. Specific Landscaping Requirements

A. Requirements for LC, Limited Commercial and STR, Settlement Residential Districts. Because of the typical small lot size and compact character of the settlements in which these two zoning districts are located, site landscaping requirements shall be as follows for non-residential uses:

i. General Site Landscaping. All developed portions of the site shall conform to Section 5.11.2, General Requirements.

ii. Landscaping Adjacent to Road. Street trees shall be provided and maintained at one (1) tree per thirty-five (35) feet of frontage. Street trees shall be located in four (4) foot minimum width lawn strip between the road and sidewalk. When this is not feasible, trees shall be planted no further than fifteen (15) feet from the edge of pavement or back of curb unless otherwise approved by the Planning Commission. Landscaping shall be consistent with the streetscape design as provided by the Township, if applicable.

iii. Screening. Upon any improvement or change in use for which a site plan is required, a landscape buffer shall be provided to create a visual screen at least eight (8) feet in height along all adjoining boundaries of a nonresidential use or a residential use of higher density than an abutting single family residential zoned property. At the discretion of the Planning Commission, modification for screening may be allowed pursuant to Section 5.11.7, Modification to Landscape Requirements.

iv. Utility Clearance. See Section 5.11.2.A.vi.

B. Requirements for Single Family Residential Districts. Single Family Residential properties are encouraged to plant and maintain landscaping which provides a good street side appearance, is a mixture of deciduous and evergreen plantings and is in-keeping with the character of the surrounding area. The following requirements are required for all single family detached residential properties and is in addition to the requirements for residential developments that are approved through the Site Plan Review process.

i. General Site Landscaping. All unpaved portions of the front yard shall be planted with grass, ground cover, shrubbery, or other suitable live plant and landscape bed material, which shall extend to any abutting street pavement edge.

ii. Maintenance of Unobstructed Visibility. No landscaping shall be established or maintained on any parcel that will obstruct the view of drivers. Accordingly, all landscaping shall comply with the provisions set forth in Section 5.1, Clear Vision Area.

iii. Utility Clearance. See Section 5.11.2.A.vi.

C. Subdivision Planting Requirements. In single family platted subdivisions, residential site condominiums or non-residential subdivisions (example: interior streets in industrial subdivisions) street trees, medium or large canopy deciduous trees, shall be planted in front of each lot as follows: one (1) tree shall be planted for every thirty-five (35) feet of frontage between the sidewalk and curb. The width of the area between the sidewalk and back of curb shall be a minimum of four (4) feet.

6. Modifications to Landscape Requirements

In consideration of the overall design and impact of a specific landscape plan, and in consideration of the amount of existing plant material to be retained on the site, the Planning Commission may modify the specific requirements outlined herein, provided that any such adjustment is in keeping with the intent of this Ordinance. In determining whether a modification is appropriate, the Planning Commission shall consider whether the following conditions exist:

A. Topographic features or other unique features of the site create conditions such that strict application of the landscape regulations would result in a less effective screen than an alternative landscape design.

B. Parking, vehicular circulation, or land use are such that required landscaping would not enhance the site or result in the desired screening effect.

C. The public benefit intended by the landscape regulations could be better achieved with a plan that varies from the strict requirements of this Ordinance.