

Check-List for Tree / Turf Management In Landscapes

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1. Selective pruning -- crown raising and thinning;
2. Raise mower height;
3. Reduce traffic on tree / turf areas to minimize compaction and turf wear, or alternatively plan for fall sodding;
4. Reduce irrigation levels - err on under-watering rather than over-watering;
5. Deep water occasionally rather than shallow water often;
6. Cut turf nitrogen fertilization by at least 50% in shade areas (~3/4 pds N per 1,000 ft² or less);
7. Use generous mulch islands, or perennial shrub or non-vining ground covers in shade areas;
8. Select turf species / cultivars carefully for shade and cold tolerance, and disease resistance, (consider using turf mixtures);
9. Rake turf surfaces often especially in fall to remove tree litter as soon as possible;
10. Assure soil drainage, and reduce or prevent compaction;
11. Do not inhibit air flow across turf surface with hedges, walls, berms, or dense plantings;
12. Zone pesticide treatments separately for trees and turf, and monitor shaded areas closely. Be ready with fungicides to maintain turf performance;
13. Develop realistic expectations of tree and turf performance among clients - both trees and turf will have performance impeded by growing together. Segregation of plant types and targeted management brings success.



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