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| Version | Date | Description of Revisions |
| 1 | August 30, 2006 | Approved final document. |
| 2 | October 16, 2007 | Minor revisions by Legal Services |
| 3 | November 13, 2009 | Modified ‘Related Sections’ |
| 4 | March 14, 2011 | Minor Legal changes |
| 5 | April 13, 2012 | Addition of References and Replacement Parts sections on this page |
| 6 | June 28, 2012 | Reformatted to Remove White Space |
| 7 | August 6, 2013 | New Format |
| 8 | November 4, 2013 | First Draft specification update project (AV comments). |
| 9 | January 28, 2015 | Incorporated 3 classifications of structural pruning into spec. |
| 10 | June 16, 2015 | Incorporated comments from 2nd Legal Review. |
| **11** | **September 10, 2015** | **Updated, Finalized Specification – Reference eDOCS #5972160 v4 (AAM)** |

NOTE:

This is a CONTROLLED Document. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against the on-line file version prior to use.

**Notice:** This Document hardcopy must be used for reference purpose only.

**The on-line copy is the current version of the document.**

# GEneral

## Related Sections

*[Under "Related Sections", identify other Sections that are related to, and/or dependent on, the work results or information specified elsewhere. The list should be limited to Sections with specific information that the reader might expect to find in this Section, but is specified elsewhere. For example, if hardware for aluminum entrances is specified in the aluminum entrance Section, a cross-reference would be appropriate in the finish hardware Section. The purpose of this cross-referencing is for information only, to aid in finding those other requirements—not to define the scope of the Section.*

*Cross-referencing here may also be used to coordinate assemblies or systems whose components may span multiple Sections and which must meet certain performance requirements as an assembly or system.*

*Contractor is responsible for coordination of the Work.*

*This Section is to be completed/updated during the design development by the Consultant. If it is not applicable to the section for the specific project it may be deleted.]*

*[List Sections specifying installation of products supplied but not installed under this Section and indicate specific items.]*

### .1 Section [\_\_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]: Execution requirements for ...[item]... specified under this Section.

### *[List Sections specifying products installed but not supplied under this Section and indicate specific items.]*

### .2 Section [\_\_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]: Product requirements for ...[item]... for installation under this Section.

### *[List Sections specifying related requirements.]*

### .3 Section [\_\_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]: [Optional short phrase indicating relationship]

## References

### ANSI A300-2008 (R2014) , generally accepted industry standards for tree care practices.Tree Care Operations

### Highway Traffic Act R.S.O. 1990 c.H8

### Plant Protection Act S.C.1990, c.22

### Canadian Food Inspection Agency Regulation D-03-08 Phytosanitary Requirements to Prevent the Introduction Into and Spread Within Canada of the Emerald Ash Borer, Agrilus planipennis (Fairemaire) (4th Revision)

## Scheduling of the Work

### Prior to commencing the pruning work:

#### Schedule the timing of the Work with the Consultant.

#### Notify the Consultant a minimum of 7 Days in advance of the commencement of the pruning work.

#### Review the extent of the pruning work with the Consultant.

### The Contractor shall employ only trained and capable workers with the following qualifications:

#### Arboriculture Canada Chainsaw Safety & Cutting Techniques,or Workplace Safety North Certified Professional Chainsaw Operator, or Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) Chainsaw Operation and Maintenance, or equivalent

#### Tree Rescue and Fall Arrest for Climbers

#### Aerial Bucket Rescue for Aerial Device Operators

### The Contractor must be qualified to perform work within 3.05 metres (10 feet) of exposed energized power lines operating at various voltages up to 50,000 volts. All persons working within 3.05 metres (10 feet) of an electrical apparatus shall have the following training:

#### IHSA Three Day Safety and Awareness for Line Clearing.

### The Work must be performed by employees who are competent and in accordance with the Electrical Utility Safety Rules (published by the Electrical and Utilities Safety Association of Ontario Incorporated, revised January 2009) for work in close proximity to energized power lines and equipment.

## Measurement and Payment

### .1 All costs associated with the work of this Section shall be included in the price(s) for Item No(s). [\_\_\_] in the Bid Form.

### .2 Payment shall be made at the applicable unit price per tree pruned, including the Site restoration and shall be full compensation for all labour, material and equipment required to complete the work of this Section.

## Field Sample

### Perform sample pruning which is acceptable to the Consultant in order to identify:

#### Knowledge of the target areas, including branch bark ridge and branch collars.

#### The technique for selection process and pruning used to establish the desired form and shape for each species.

### Acceptance of the pruning work will be determined by the Consultant from the field sample.

# PRODUCTS

## Disinfectant

### The disinfectant shall be a 20% solution of sodium hypochlorite or 70% solution of ethyl alcohol.

# EXECUTION

## General

### Prune in accordance with ANSI A300 standards and in accordance with good arboricultural practices. In the event of conflict between the ANSI A300 standards and the requirements of the Contract Specification Sections, the more stringent requirements shall apply.

### Tool maintenance:

#### Ensure that tools are clean and sharp throughout the pruning operation. Do not use tools that crush or tear bark.

#### Disinfect tools before each tree is pruned.

#### On diseased plant material, disinfect tools before each cut.

### Notify the Consultant immediately of any conditions detrimental to the health of plant material or operations.

### Prune during the plant’s dormant period or after leaves have matured. Avoid pruning during leaf formation, at time of leaf fall, or when seasonal temperatures drop below - 10ºC.

### Prune heavy bleeder species such as Acer, Betula, Gleditsia, Tilia, Ulmus, Populus only when in full leaf.

### Retain the natural form and shape of the plant species.

### Do not:

#### Flush cut branches.

#### Crush or tear bark.

#### Cut behind the branch bark ridge.

#### Damage branch collars.

#### Damage branches which are to remain.

#### Tear roots or branches with excavation equipment.

## Pruning

### Structural Pruning

#### Structural pruning including elevation shall include the following tasks for all assigned trees listed in [ ] *[Consultant to attach schedule to Contract and indicate the relevant schedule in the sentence above. ]*

##### Removal of all dead and decaying branches.

##### Removal of all limbs that come into contact with and may damage utility lines, structures, lighting posts, fences, etc.

##### Removal of all seriously abraded and weakened branches where the branches could constitute a hazard, could fall in high winds or heavy precipitation, or could abrade against other major branches causing further mechanical damage.

#### No “hangers” will be left in any pruned tree at the end of each Working Day.

#### Carefully rope and lower any limbs over utility lines, structures, fences and flower beds, etc. that cannot be handled and lowered safely by hand.

#### It is expected that each tree will be structurally pruned according to good arboricultural practices including, but not limited to, the following:

##### Encouragement of a strong central leader

##### Suppressing low and dominant growing branches

##### Reducing/removing stems that could have potential stem abrasions

### Elevation Pruning

#### Elevation pruning shall include the following for all assigned trees:

##### Establish a minimum clearance height of 2.5 metres (8 feet) over any public walkway and 5 metres (16 feet) over a roadway.

##### Trees originating on Regional property will have branches pruned to allow 0.65 metre (2 feet) clearance from any structure (e.g. sheds, fences, etc.)

##### All coniferous trees shall be pruned so that no branches or foliage is present below a height of 1 metre (3 feet) above the ground to allow landscaping machinery, such as lawnmowers, access underneath the crown.

##### No tree shall be pruned such that more than 1/3 of its total leaf area is removed.

### General Pruning

#### All pruning practices shall be carried out according to proper arboricultural practices including, but not limited to, the following:

##### No spurs shall be used when climbing live trees.

##### Where reasonable, pruning will not disrupt the natural form of the tree.

##### The removal of any more than one third of the foliage producing structure at any one time shall be avoided.

##### Pruning shall be carried out in such a way as to leave the foliage evenly distributed throughout the tree crown.

##### The smaller of the two abrading branches will be removed unless such action will disrupt the natural form of the tree.

##### The stubbing of major branches or the trunk of the tree known as “pollarding” or “topping” will not be permitted and all cuts shall be made at the nodes or crotches.

##### Site lines and street sign clearance must be maintained in accordance with section 184 of the Highway Traffic Act.

##### Street lights shall be cleared in such a way as to permit maximum illumination of roadways and sidewalks while still maintaining the trees’ structural integrity.

##### In pruning for clearance from lights, utility lines and structures, the stripping of one side of the tree will be avoided.

##### All broken branches shall be pruned back to the nearest suitable trunk, crotch or lateral.

##### To promote optimum wound closure, all pruning cuts will be made semi-flush with the lateral, main branch or trunk or on twigs and small branches no more than one-half inch above any buds.

##### Where limbs are to be shortened, the Contractor will not cut back to “suckers” (epicormic growth).

##### Where ropes are to be snubbed around healthy trunks or limbs in lowering and felling operations, care will be taken to ensure that no bark damage occurs.

##### Where trees are known to be diseased, pruning tools will be disinfected with 70% denatured ethyl alcohol to prevent transmitting the disease on tools.

##### When lowering the height of a deciduous tree, especially under utility lines, utilize drop crotch pruning where possible to minimize the likelihood of suckering.

##### Where major drop crotch pruning is being carried out, ensure that the new leader can carry the sap flow increased by the removal of the old terminal.

##### Where a major cut has been made, where minor rot problems occur, or where bark is frayed, damaged, ripped or lifted, tracing will be carried out. All loose or damaged bark will be removed to the sapwood and all decaying wood, if any, will be removed.

##### Epicormic sprouting (suckering) on or around tree stems or old stumps shall be removed.

### Tree Defects

#### Where the Contractor discovers an unanticipated major defect in a tree scheduled for pruning that warrants the removal of the tree, the Contractor shall notify the Region for further instruction.

#### If an unanticipated major defect in a tree scheduled for pruning poses an immediate hazard to the Contractor’s forces, utility lines, vehicles or structures within the fall area, the portion of the tree above the decay point will be removed immediately. If practical, the remaining portion of the tree will be saved and pruned into a natural form, or so that it can grow into a natural form. Where the remaining portion cannot be trained into a suitable form or where mutilation will result, the Contractor shall notify the Region for further instructions.

### Specifications for Ash Trees (Fraxinus Spp.)

#### The Contractor shall not structurally prune Ash Trees (Fraxinus species). However, the Contractor will be required to remove immediately hazardous branches or limbs, and elevate the crowns over pedestrian sidewalks and roads.

#### The Contractor will be responsible for the disposal of all Ash material according to Canadian Food Inspection Agency Regulation D-03-08 Phytosanitary Requirements to Prevent the Introduction Into and Spread Within Canada of the Emerald Ash Borer, Agrilus Planipennis .

### Specifications for Newly Planted Trees

#### The Contractor shall not prune trees affixed with a York Region plastic tag having a date of 2012, 2013 or 2014.

### Specifications for Mature Trees >40cm

#### The Contractor shall not structurally prune any tree within the Regional road allowance that exceeds a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of 40cm. The Contractor shall remove hazardous branches or limbs, and elevate the crowns of trees that exceed a DBH of 40cm over pedestrian sidewalks and roads.

### Removal of Material

#### The Contractor shall be responsible for the complete removal and disposal of all material (including trunk wood, limb wood, fine branches, wood chips, leaves and stumps). No material is to be left on-Site overnight.

#### Material from trees in regulated areas and quarantined zones is to be disposed of in accordance with Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulations.

#### The Region may from time to time restrict the movement of wood from trees removed under this contract.

### Clean up

#### The Contractor shall be responsible for complete Site restoration and general Site clean up to the satisfaction of the Consultant. Site restoration shall include, but is not limited to, the clean-up of all sawdust, small branches and leaves.

#### Material from trees in regulated areas and quarantined zones is to be disposed of in accordance with Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulations.

### Private Property

#### Trees to be pruned originating on private property shall be pruned back to the property line following appropriate arboricultural practices where deemed necessary to keep sidewalk areas clear and allow the unobstructed growth of trees located on Regional property.

**END OF SECTION**