



Landscaping in Parking Lots

Parks and Recreation Board: September 17, 2026



Landscaping standards

- City's landscaping requirements are contained in Chapter 86 of the Code of Ordinances.
- The city's landscaping regulations are intended to:
 - ❖ Promote the value of property, enhance the welfare, and improve the physical appearance of the city;
 - ❖ Reduce the negative effects of glare, noise, erosion and sedimentation caused by expanses of impervious and un-vegetated surfaces within the urban environment; and



Landscaping standards

- ❖ Preserve and improve the natural and urban environment by recognizing that the use of landscaping elements and retention of existing trees can contribute to the processes of air purification, oxygen regeneration, groundwater recharge, abatement of noise, glare and heat, provision of habitats for wildlife, and enhance the overall beauty of the city.
- Properties zoned as Neighborhood Services, General Retail, Commercial, Industrial and non-residential uses (in residentially zoned areas) containing principle structures, parking areas and signage are all subject to the same landscaping regulations.



Landscaping in parking lots

- Code Section 86-109 details standards for the *Landscaping of parking lots*. The purpose of this ordinance section is “to require incorporation of landscaping into the design and construction of parking areas while maintaining standards necessary for safe parking and maneuvering space.”
- Parking lots require the installation of new trees from the city’s approved canopy and/or ornamental trees list, irrigation and landscape islands. Landscaping plans must be approved by city staff.

Tree list



Canopy Trees	Ornamental Trees
Bald Cypress	Afghan Pine
Bigtooth Maple	Crepe Myrtle
Bur Oak	Eastern Red Cedar
Caddo Maple	Eve's Necklace
Chinese Pistache	Flowering Crabapple
Lacebark Elm	Forest Pansy Redbud
Osage Orange	Little Gem Magnolia
Pecan	Japanese Maple
Shumard Oak	Mexican Plumb
Southern Live Oak	Oklahoma Redbud
Southern Magnolia	Ornamental Pear
Texas Red Oak	Western Soapberry



Landscape islands

- Development sites less than five acres shall be designed with a maximum of 20 parking spaces between landscape islands. Parking aisles of 20 or more spaces in length shall terminate in landscape islands.
- Developments five acres or greater in size shall provide a 162-square-foot landscaped island for each 12 parking spaces.
- For each landscaped island of at least 10 feet by 20 feet located within a parking lot, credit for four parking spaces will be provided. Credit for parking spaces cannot reduce the overall parking requirement by more than ten percent or to less than ten total spaces.

Chisenhall
Sports
Complex
landscape
islands



LANDSCAPING, TREES AND VEGETATION

86 Attachment 1

City of Burleson

Table 1, Summary of Landscape Requirements for Non-Residential* Uses

Size of Development	General				R.O.W. Buffer Area			Parking Lot Interior		
	Landscape Plan Required	Required Landscaped Area	Irrigation	Plant Materials	Area Requirement	Location	Required Plant Material	Area Requirement	Required Plant Material	Location
Less than 1 Ac.	Yes	20% of total lot area with 40% located in front yard. See Credits (Sec. 41-125)	Yes (All Areas)	Groundcover, trees, shrubs, flowering/nonflowering plants. Grass and/or groundcover to cover no more than 90% of required landscape area	None	None	None	None	None	Parking Aisles: Max 20 spaces between landscape islands. Parking aisles with 20 or more spaces shall terminate in landscape islands.
Greater than 1 Ac. but Less than 5 Ac.	Yes	20% of total lot area with 40% located in front yard. See Credits (Sec. 41-125)	Yes (All Areas)	Groundcover, trees, shrubs, flowering/nonflowering plants. Grass and/or groundcover to cover no more than 90% of required landscape area	5 ft. landscaped buffer	Adjacent to public R.O.W.	1, 3" caliper, canopy or 2 ornamental trees per 60 linear ft. 1, 5 gal. shrub per 5 linear ft. Or Landscaped Berm: Groundcover and/or shrubs	None	None	Parking Aisles: Max 20 spaces between landscape islands. Parking aisles with 20 or more spaces shall terminate in landscape islands.
Greater than 5 Ac.	Yes	20% of total lot area with 40% located in front yard. See Credits (Sec. 41-125)	Yes (All Areas)	Groundcover, trees, shrubs, flowering/nonflowering plants. Grass and/or groundcover to cover no more than 90% of required landscape area	10 ft. Landscaped Buffer	Adjacent to public R.O.W.	1, 3" caliper, canopy or 2 ornamental trees per 60 linear ft. 1, 5 gal. shrub per 5 linear ft. Or Landscaped Berm: Groundcover and/or shrubs	162 sq. ft. landscaped island	1, 3" caliper, canopy tree or 1 ornamental tree per island Ground cover or shrubs	1 island for ea. 12 parking spaces

* Includes non-residential uses located in residential districts and NS, GR, C and I zoning districts.

Summary of landscape Requirements



Off-street parking

- The city's parking requirements are located in Appendix B, Chapter 134, *Vehicle parking regulations*. Off-street parking is required in all zoning districts, except Central Commercial.
- This section does not specifically list off-street parking standards for public parks and recreation areas. However, private or commercial recreation areas require one space for each four persons to be accommodated in the establishment.
- With few exceptions, the city's parking and landscaping standards apply to all land within the city. Variances or waivers to these standards require the consideration of the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.



Questions/ Discussion

- Does the Board have any questions or comments?