

## LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING STANDARDS

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# 8 ARTICLE EIGHT

### LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING STANDARDS

#### 801 Purpose

The Landscaping and Screening Regulations provide additional guidance on the development of sites within Chadron by addressing landscaping and screening requirements. They are designed to improve the appearance of the community; buffer potentially incompatible land uses from one another; and conserve the value of properties within the City of Chadron.

#### 802 Applicability

The provisions of this section shall apply to all new development on each lot or site upon application for a building permit, except for the following:

- a. Reconstruction or replacement of a lawfully existing use or structure following a casualty loss.
- b. Remodeling, rehabilitation, or improvements to existing uses or structures which do not substantially change the location of structures, parking, or other site improvements.
- c. Additions or enlargements of existing uses or structures which increase floor area or impervious coverage area by less than 20 percent. Where such additions or enlargements are 20 percent or greater, these provisions shall apply only to that portion where the new development occurs.

#### 803 Landscaping Requirements

Landscaping shall be required adjacent to each street property line and within street yards as set forth in Table 8-1.

#### 804 Landscaping Materials and Installation Standards

##### a. Official List of Plant Materials

All plant material installed in landscaped areas or bufferyards shall be consistent with the Official List of Plant Materials provided by the Chadron Tree Board through the office of the Zoning Administrator. All plant materials shall conform in size, species and spacing with this section of the regulations.

##### b. Use of Inorganic Landscaping Materials

No artificial trees, shrubs, plants or turf shall be used to fulfill the minimum requirements for landscaping. Inorganic materials, such as stone or decorative pavers, may be used provided that such material does not comprise more than 35% of the minimum required landscaped area. Other concrete and/or asphalt pavement surfaces may not be used within the minimum required landscaped area, except for walkways less than 5 feet in width.

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**Table 8-1: Required Landscape Depth**

Zoning District	Depth of Landscaping Adjacent to Street Property Line
AG	35 feet
RR	35 feet
R-1	20 feet
R-2, R-3	15 feet
MH	35 feet
LC	15 feet
CC	10 feet
DC	No requirement
GC	10 feet
LI	15 feet
GI	No requirement

### 805 Bufferyard Provisions

These provisions apply when use is established in a more intensive zoning district (District A) which is adjacent to a less intensive zoning district (District B). The owner, developer, or operator of the use within District A shall install and maintain a landscaped bufferyard on his/her lot or site, as set forth in this section. Bufferyard requirements apply only to those districts indicated in Table 8-2. Bufferyards are not required of single-family, 2-family, duplex, or townhouse use types in the more intensive zoning district.

- a. The bufferyard dimensions set forth in Table 8-2 apply to zoning districts which share a common lot line or are adjacent but separated by an intervening alley.

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**Table 8-2  
Bufferyard Requirements (Feet)**

		DISTRICT B		(Less Intensive Adjacent District)		
		RR (Note 1)	R-1* (Note 1)	R-2 (Note 1)	R-3,MH (Note 1)	LC,CC
	<b>R-3</b>	20	20	10	---	---
	<b>LC</b>	10	10	20	---	---
	<b>CC</b>	20	20	20	10	---
<b>DISTRICT A</b>	<b>DC</b>	---	---	---	---	---
<b>More Intensive District</b>	<b>GC</b>	30	30	30	20	---
(Note 3)	<b>LI</b>	100	100	100	100	20
	<b>GI</b>	150	150	150	150	75

**Notes to Table 8-2:**

**Note 1:** Applies to residential uses previously established in the zoning district.

**Note 2:** Vertical screening only is required as set forth in Section 806.

**Note 3:** Buffer requirements do not apply to single-family, duplex, or townhouse residential uses established in District A

- b. When a street separates adjacent zoning districts requiring a bufferyard, the size of the bufferyard shall be one-half the required bufferyard set forth in Table 8-2.
- c. Each required bufferyard must be entirely landscaped and free of paved areas, access ways, storage, or other disturbances.

### 806 Screening Standards

a. Application

Screening is required between adjacent zoning districts indicated in Table 8-2 when one or more of the following conditions in the more intensive zoning district is directly visible from and faces toward the boundary of the less intensive zoning district.

1. The rear elevation of buildings.
2. Outdoor storage areas or storage tanks, unless otherwise screened.
3. Loading docks, refuse collection points, and other service areas.
4. Major machinery or areas housing a manufacturing process.
5. Major on-site traffic circulation areas or truck and/or trailer parking.
6. Sources of glare, noise, or other environmental effects.

b. Opaque Barrier

A six foot opaque barrier shall be provided which visually screens the conditions listed in Section 806 (a) from

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less intensive uses as follows:

1. A solid wood, S2S lumber, and/or masonry fence or wall at least six feet in height.
2. A landscaping screen, using evergreen or deciduous materials, capable of providing a substantially opaque, hedge-like barrier and attaining a minimum height of six feet within three years of planting.
3. A landscaped earth berm with a maximum slope of three to one, rising no less than six feet above the existing grade of the lot line separating the zoning districts.
4. Any combination of these methods that achieves a cumulative height of six feet.

c. Location of Screening Wall

1. A screening wall or fence shall be installed no closer to the less intensive zoning district than one-half the width of the required bufferyard.

d. Screening: Effect on Drainage

Screening shall not adversely affect surface water drainage.

e. Permitted Interruptions of Screening

Screening may be interrupted to provide access drives to service areas or for loading purposes to buildings. Such breaks or interruptions shall not exceed 20% of the length of the required screened area.

### **807 Tree Plantings**

In any landscaped area required by the Minimum Depth Requirements, the Bufferyard Requirements, or the Parking Lot Interior Landscaping Requirements, one tree of an approved species listed on the Official List of Plant Materials shall be planted and maintained for each 500 square feet of required landscaped area. Existing trees approved for preservation shall be counted toward satisfaction of this requirement. An approved species list shall be obtained by the City of Chadron Tree Board.

### **808 General Provisions**

a. Time of Application

The provisions contained in this Article shall be applied for each individual lot or site when an application for a building permit on such lot is made.

b. Maintenance of Required Landscaping

Upon installation of required landscape materials, each owner shall take appropriate actions to ensure their continued health and maintenance.

c. Obstruction of View

Landscaping or screening installed in any landscaped area shall not obstruct the view from or to any driveway approach, street, alley, or sidewalk.

d. Earth Berm Locations

All earth berm locations shall be reviewed by the Public Works Director, or his/her designee to determine how the berms shall relate to drainage and public utilities.

e. Exceptions

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A development may continue to comply with the bufferyard and screening requirements in effect at the time of issuance of its original permit, regardless of whether an adjacent lot or site is subsequently rezoned to a less intensive district which would otherwise require compliance with bufferyard or screening provisions.

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## Landscaping and Screening Requirements

