

7:50-6.26 Landscaping and revegetation guidelines

(a) Municipalities may wish to consider the following measures when formulating landscaping or revegetation requirements:

1. Requiring vegetation removal permits as a means to further ensure that unnecessary disturbance of existing vegetation is avoided and that proper revegetation is undertaken, when necessary. These permits can be required only when a construction permit or other municipal approval is required or can be independently required as a prerequisite to the removal of a specified amount of vegetation.
2. Requiring landscaping permits as a prerequisite to any substantial landscaping activities. These can be required only when a construction permit or other municipal approval is required or can be independently required even if no other municipal permit or approval is required.
3. Listing the types of other shrubs and trees which may be used when the conditions of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.24(c)3 are met. These other shrubs and trees may be listed on the basis of their adaptation to droughty, nutrient poor conditions.
4. Identifying preferred types of grasses that are tolerant of droughty, nutrient poor conditions. Appropriate types include:
 - i. Fescue species;
 - ii. Smooth brome grass;
 - iii. Reed canary grass;
 - iv. Little bluestem;
 - v. Deertongue;
 - vi. Red top; and
 - vii. Switch grass.
5. Establishing precise standards for lawn areas, such as:
 - i. Limiting their size to a certain percentage of the total area to be landscaped or a specified square footage; and
 - ii. Prohibiting small, isolated grass areas and lawn strips.
6. Requiring that planting beds be covered with at least two inches of mulch.
7. Requiring additional shade trees to reduce evaporation rates.
8. Encouraging water conserving irrigation methods in one or more of the following ways:

- i. Use of non-potable (for example, retained stormwater) water for irrigation purposes;
- ii. Use of moisture sensing devices to regulate automatic irrigation systems;
- iii. Use of manually operated irrigation systems;
- iv. Use of drip irrigation systems; or
- v. Discourage the use of permanently installed irrigation systems except when necessary to maintain heavily used recreation areas.