



Land Development Services

# Technical Bulletin

**Subject:** Revised Dates for Tree Planting Window

**Date:** 05/03/2024

**No.:** 24-05

**Summary:** Tree planting window dates are changing due to local climate change.

**Effective Date:** 05/31/2024

**Background:** Adapting to the changing climate is crucial for the success of establishing newly planted trees. The Forest Conservation (FCON) Branch at Land Development Services (LDS) ensures that the tree planting window is reviewed regularly and adjusted according to climate changes.

**Policy:** In response to the changing climate patterns in our region, we have reviewed our tree planting practices ensuring the optimal health and survival of newly planted trees. LDS-Forest Conservation staff have determined the time of year that was once conducive to establishing newly planted trees has shifted. FCON does not allow for the planting of trees during summer months because young trees do not survive well if they are planted when it is too hot and dry. However, in our region as we do not experience ground frosts, winter is often used to extend the fall planting season, therefore, we are now allowing for planting during these months.

After careful consideration, the new tree planting window is October 1 – May 31.

Requests for landscape deferrals will be accepted and approved between the months of June 1 - September 30. In the event of an abnormally large snowfall or frozen ground, or if planting stock is limited, LDS-Forest Conservation will accept and approve landscape deferrals during winter months.

If you have any questions, please contact Adam Lipera, Chief, Forest Conservation Branch of the Site Development and Inspections Division at **703-324-1720, TTY 711**

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