

Select and transplant large root-balled trees

Overview

This standard is about the selection and transplanting of large root-balled trees.

When working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained, and hold current certification where required, in line with relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement appropriate working methods, in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. select, prepare and use the appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
5. confirm all equipment has been checked and is fit for purpose
6. maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
7. select a tree species that meets customer and site requirements
8. ensure the bio-security and the condition of the large root-balled tree before transporting and establishment
9. prepare the large root-balled tree for transportation
10. transport the large root-balled tree in a way that is safe and secure and in accordance with relevant highway and traffic regulations
11. maintain the health, vitality and physical condition of the large root-balled tree throughout the operation
12. identify and clearly mark out the planting site
13. transplant the large root-balled tree in line with the specification
14. provide support to the tree, if necessary for the planting conditions
15. specify aftercare appropriate to the tree and the environment
16. remove all waste and surplus materials and dispose of them as specified
17. ensure the site is left in a condition which meets environmental requirements, in accordance with the specification
18. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
5. the legal requirements for checking equipment
6. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of equipment and vehicles when on site
7. how to select suitable tree stock to meet the needs of the customer and the site conditions
8. how to recognise healthy planting stock
9. how to check the condition and bio-security of the large root-balled tree to ensure it is fit for transportation and establishment
10. the effects of transportation on large root-balled trees and how to prepare them for transportation and maintain their condition throughout
11. the factors affecting the timing, method and site of planting
12. the causes of damage to the tree, from the nursery to planting, and how these can be prevented
13. the aftercare requirements of large root-balled trees to ensure their successful establishment
14. how to select a suitable support system that will benefit the large root-balled tree when transplanted
15. the potential impact of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
16. your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Causes of damage:

- handling
- transport
- timing
- site conditions
- soil type
- exposure/aspect
- drying out

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