

## **ANSI standards that promote healthy trees under public review**

The Tree Care Industry Association has placed a call for public review on revision of the national tree care standard for Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction. The public review period runs from August 5 to September 19, 2011. The review documents are posted on <http://www.treecareindustry.org/standards/CurrentProjects.htm>. The document contains instructions for submitting comments.

Keeping trees healthy is a main concern of the [Tree Care Industry Association \(TCIA\)](#), an ANSI member and ANSI-accredited standards developer. TCIA is an industry trade association whose members are comprised of tree care companies. TCIA also serves as the secretariat for the ANSI A300 series of *Standards for Tree Care Management Operations* (ANSI A300 Parts 1 through 9). A300 standards are written by the [ANSI-accredited A300 committee](#).

This is the second, and intended final, revision draft of **ANSI A300 Part 5-(2005) *Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction*** standard. This part of the A300 standards applies to planting and transplanting of trees, woody shrubs, and woody vines. This revision of Part 5 includes a new section on root management during construction and other information regarding:

Planning phase

Tree resource evaluation and conservation

Design phase

Tree conservation guidelines

Pre-construction phase

Construction phase

Landscape phase

Post-construction phase

Tree protection practices prior to and during demolition, construction, and landscaping

Disposal of building wastes

Fill soils (grade changes)

Excavation and trenching

ANSI A300 documents provide standard definitions and tree care management standards for all aspects of tree health management, including pruning, utility pruning, soil management and fertilization, tree support structures, lightning protection for trees, tree management and preservation during construction and land use, tree planting and transplanting, and integrated vegetation management for utility rights-of-way.

Developers, landscape architects, landscape contractors, arborists, homeowners, and communities rely on successful preservation and conservation of trees and shrubs during development activities to meet many objectives, including increased property value, community enhancement, ordinance compliance, contractual obligations, and for support of green initiatives and building codes. The revised ANSI A300 Part 5 Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction standard will help all these stakeholders meet their objectives.

Trees help fight global warming by absorbing carbon dioxide and keeping our air oxygenated. Trees decorate our thoroughfares and provide cool shade in the dog days of summer. Trees are an investment. Well-cared-for trees can increase property value. Poorly maintained trees could become unsightly and unsafe, creating a significant liability. To protect your assets, we urge all professionals, property managers, and homeowners to ask their tree care company, in writing, to follow ANSI A300 standards to ensure that trees and shrubs are protected and well-managed, so they remain healthy, safe, and free of pests and diseases.

For additional information or to find a tree care company in your area, contact:

### **Tree Care Industry Association**

[www.tcia.org](http://www.tcia.org)

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