LANDSCAPE DESIGN GUIDELINES

I. GENERAL

A. Narrative

Trees and plantings are vital elements in the fabric of the village. They allow people to continue their connection with nature, can moderate seasonal climate effects, can soften hard urban surfaces, and can provide a physical buffer between the pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

A quick glance at the trees and plants lining an urban street reveals the variety of purposes they serve. Some act as buffers, keeping pedestrians at a safe distance from traffic. Others provide much desired shade on hot summer days. Still others frame points of interest along the streetscape, or call attention to a particular entrance to a building. Some may even provide a pleasant place to sit while enjoying a lunch from a neighborhood deli. In general, plants and trees enhance the street environment, reinforcing the public realm of the street as a place for the pedestrian, and as a place for social interaction within an urban setting.

The urban landscape can be treated architectonically or in a soft, naturalistic manner. Plant materials can be employed formally to carefully delineate spaces or organically to simulate natural woodlands. Either design strategy may be employed to Great Bridge Village's urban experience and its "sense of place".

The use of native plants is strongly encouraged. Water efficient landscaping techniques and rain water harvesting is also encouraged.

II. STREET LANDSCAPES

A. Guidelines

1. Select trees and plant material appropriate for the urban conditions they are placed within.

2. Consider varying street tree types based on their sun/shadow exposure and the scale of the street, i.e. spatial definition.

3. Provide trees spaced at regular intervals in tree wells within the street furniture zone, in continuous strips behind the curb zone, or in grand verges. Use linear planting beds whenever possible.

4. Tree spacing along streets may vary from 15 feet to 60 feet on center. Tree species, habit, streetscape spatial definition, and design intent should all be considered when implementing the tree spacing interval.

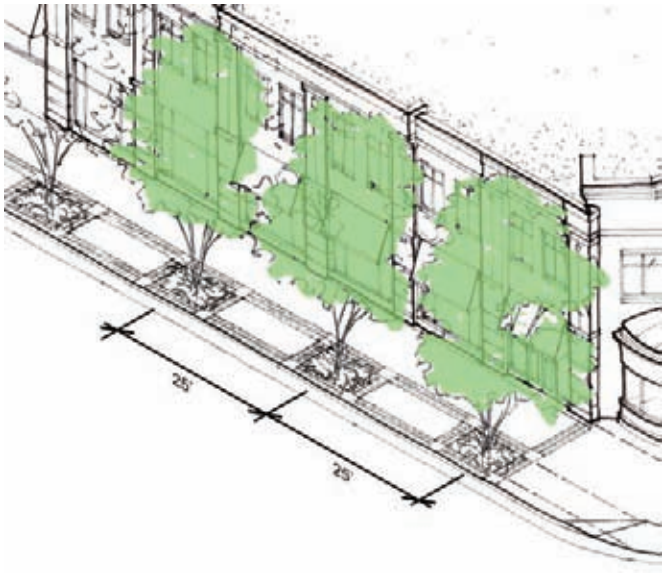
5. Coordinate tree alignment on both sides of the street and maintain the alignment as much as possible when planting trees in rows or bosques.

6. Tree grates should be used in commercial, retail and office area sidewalks with narrow pedestrian movement zones. If using tree grates, use appropriate size trees (small canopy). The use of structured soils is highly encouraged as per Cornell University recommendations.

7. Careful consideration should be given to tree placement at intersections. Tree placement should announce the intersection and add to the definition of the space, but should not obstruct motorist's vision at intersections.

8. Where street tree plantings create narrow pedestrian movement zones, within commercial, retail, and office areas, tree grates should be used to extend the width of the pedestrian zone.

9. Use landscaping to screen parking from adjacent residential uses.



III. STREET SHRUBS, GROUNDCOVER AND FLOWERS

A. Guidelines

1. Shrubs, groundcovers, flowers and other ornamental plantings may be used in place of trees where design opportunities permit or tree spacing is interrupted by utility placement.

2. Low plantings may also be used in conjunction with tree plantings to further buffer pedestrians along high-volume traffic ways, restrict mid-block crossing of pedestrians, or to change the spatial definition of the streetscape.

3. Shrubs, groundcovers and flowers may be used to define outdoor dining areas or pedestrian nodes.

4. Low-growing shrubs or groundcovers should be considered for use in the tree wells where tree grates are not used.

Street trees add to the pedestrian comfort level.

IV. PLANTERS

A. Narrative

Planters can bring another layer of aesthetic to the Village. They allow splashes of color to highlight entryways, special features, seating areas, and outdoor dining areas.

Planters add sculptural elements to the streetscape as well as the quality of seasonal change and liveliness.

B. Guidelines

1. Planter design, material and size should complement their context.
2. Plastic planters should be prohibited from use.
3. Planters should be properly sized for the plants they contain.
4. Planters may be provided by individual business owners. Each owner is responsible for the appearance and proper maintenance of the plants they contain.
5. Planters are inappropriate for trees. Only consider annuals, groundcovers, herbs, ornamental grasses, perennials and shrubs.

V. PUBLIC REALM LANDSCAPES

A. Narrative

Great Bridge Village is an excellent example of the varied landscapes one sees in the Tidewater area. The Village is characterized by a fairly level topography accentuated by creeks and the Intracoastal Waterway.

A variety of nature plants are present in the Village. The waterways foster distinct plant communities of wetland and riparian plants, which differ from the plants found in the developed area of the Village.

The landscape heritage of Great Bridge Village should be used to structure development and redevelopment in the Village.

The existing wetlands and waterways of the Village are an invaluable educational resource. Linking these spaces to the urban fabric of the Village and the surrounding communities, provides all residents with an exceptional recreational resource.

Plants should be used to establish a hierarchy of spaces in the Village and to teach about the relationship of architecture and landscape architecture.

A continuous public way should be maintained along the waterfront.

VI. RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPES

A. Narrative

Residential areas typically are noted by grassy front lawns, shade trees, hedges, and other ornamental buildings.

Mature trees lend a sense of history and longevity to the residential areas. They are a valued characteristic of this District. Fences and walls in the Residential District provide a sense of scale and rhythm along residential streets.

B. Guidelines

1. When choosing locations for new trees and other plantings, select locations that will not interfere with utility lines, block driveways and sidewalks, or obstruct motorist's vision at intersections.

2. Edge planting beds with brick, slate or stone. A spaded edge may also be used.

3. Consider gardens, garden paths, trellises, arbors, and garden ornaments for adding character to residential landscapes.

4. Avoid grading which adversely affects existing trees or natural drainways.

5. Protect existing trees during any new construction or site work. Barriers should be placed at, if not beyond, the tree canopy dripline.

6. Fence and wall design and material selection shall relate to the architectural style of the residence.

7. Front yard fences should not exceed 36 inches in height.

8. Trash receptacles shall be adequately screened from the public right-of-way and adjoining residences.

9. Woven wire or chain link fencing shall be installed in rear yards only. Where visible from the street, screen with vines or shrubbery.

10. Privacy fencing or walls should be introduced in rear yards only. They should not exceed 6 feet in height.

C. Generic Native Plants (Only Partial Listing)

TREES	
LARGE AND MEDIUM	
Scientific Name	Common Name
Betula Nigra	River Birch
Carya Ovata	Shagbark Hickory
Fagus Grandifolia	American Beech
Fraxinus Americana	White Ash
Juglans Nigra	Black Walnut
Juniperus Virginiana	Red Cedar (Eastern)
Liquidambar Styraciflua	Sweetgum
Liriodendron Tulipifera	Tulip-Tree, Tulip Poplar
Nyssa Aquatica	Water Tupelo
Nyssa Sylvatica	Black Gum
Oxydendrum Arboreum	Sourwood
Pinus Echinata	Shortleaf Pine
Pinus Serotina	Pond Pine
Pinus Strobus	White Pine
Pinus Taeda	Loblolly Pine
Pinus Virginiana	Virginia Pine
Plantanus Occidentalis	Sycamore
Quercus Bicolor	Swamp White Oak
Quercus Coccinea	Scarlet Oak
Quercus Laurifolia	Swamp Laurel Oak
Quercus Nigra	Water Oak
Quercus Palustris	Pin Oak
Quercus Phellos	Willow Oak
Sassafras Alibidum	Sassafras
Taxodium Distichum	Bald Cypress
Tilia Americana	American Basswood

Sycamore tree.

Scarlet Oak tree.

Water Oak tree.

Close-up of a Virginia Pine tree.

Branches of a Pin Oak tree.

Close-up of the berries of an American Holly tree.

ORNAMENTAL TREES	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Amelanchier Canadensis	Serviceberry
Cercis Canadensis	Redbud (Eastern)
Chionanthus Virginicus	Fringetree
Cornus Amomum	Silky Dogwood
Cornus Florida	Flowering Dogwood
Crateagus Crus-galli	Cockspur Hawthorne
Ilex Opaca	American Holly
Magnolia Virginiana	Sweetbay Magnolia
Ostrya Virginiana	Eastern Hophornbeam
Persea Borbonia	Redbay, Sweet Bay
Salix Nigra	Black Willow
Quercus Palustris	Pin Oak
Quercus Phellos	Willow Oak
Sassafras Alibidum	Sassafras
Taxodium Distichum	Bald Cypress
Tilia Americana	American Basswood

Fringe Tree.

SHRUBS	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Aronia	Chokeberry
Baccharis Halmifolia	High Tide Bush
Callicarpa Americana	American Beautyberry
Cephalanthus Occidentalis	Button Bush
Clethra Alnifolia	Sweet Pepperbush
Gaultheria Procumbens	Wintergreen
Hamamelis Virginiana	Witch Hazel
Hydrangea Arborescens	Wild Hydrangea
Ilex Decidua	Deciduous Holly, Possumhaw
Ilex Verticillata	Winterberry
Kalmia Latifolia	Mountain Laurel
Leucothoe Axillaris	Coastal Doghobble
Lindera Benzoin	Spicebush
Rhododendron Atlanticum	Dwarf Azalea
Rhododendron Periclymenoi-des	Pinxter Flower
Rhododendron Viscosum (R. Serrulata)	Swamp Azalea
Rosa Carolina	Pasture Rose
Salix Humilis	Prairie Willow
Salix Sericea	Silky Willow
Sambucus Canadensis	Common Elderberry
Stewartia Malacondendron	Silky Camelia
Vaccinium Corymbosum (V. Virgata, Formosa)	Highbush Blueberry
Viburnum Detatum	Southern Arrow-Wood Viburnum
Viburnum Nudum	Possum-Haw Viburnum
Viburnum Prunifolium	Black-Haw Virburnum

The blossoms of a Chokeberry shrub.

A Sweet Pepperbush shrub.

Pasture Rose.

Pinxter Flower.

A Southern Lady fern.

An American Bur-Reed.

FERNS, GRASSES & VINES

Scientific Name	Common Name
FERNS	
Adiantum Pedatum	Maidenhair Fern
Athyrium Asplenioides (A. Filix-Femina)	Southern Lady Fern
Dennstaedtia Punctilobula	Hay-Scented Fern
Osmunda Cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern
Osmunda Regalis	Royal Fern
Polystichium Acrostichoides	Christmas Fern
Thelypteris Palustris	Marsh Fern
Woodwardia Virginica	Virginia Chain Fern
GRASSES & REEDS	
Andropogon Virginicus	Broomsedge
Carex Var. Crinita	Sedge
Dichanthelium Commutatum	Variable Panicgrass
Juncus Canadensis	Canada Rush
Juncus Effusus	Soft Rush
Panicum Amarum	Coastal Panic Grass
Panicum Virgatum	Switch Grass
Sparganium Americanum	American Burreed
Typha Latifolia	Broad-Leaved Cattail
VINES	
Celastrus Scandens	Climbing Bittersweet
Clematis Virginiana	Virgin's Bower
Gelsemium Sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine
Lonicera Sempervirens	Trumpet Honeysuckle
Parthenocissus Quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper

A Carolina Jessamine reed.

A Broomsedge grass.

RIPARIAN PLANTS

HERBACEOUS

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acorus Americanus (A. Calamus)	Sweet Flag
Arisaema Triphyllum	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Asarum Canadense	Wild Ginger
Aster Novi-Belgii	New York Aster
Coreopsis Tripteris	Tall Coreopsis
Equisetum Hyemale	Horsetail, Scouring Rush
Eupatorium Fistulosum	Joe Pye Weed
Helianthus Decapetalus	Ten-Petaled Sunflower
Helipsis Helianthoides	Oxeye Sunflower
Hibiscus Moscheutos	Eastern Rosemallow
Iris Virginica	Virginia Blue Flag
Lobelia Cardinalis	Cardinal Flower
Lobelia Siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia
Mertensia Virginica	Virginia Bluebells
Oenothera Fruticosa	Sundrops
Peltandra Virginica	Arrow Arum
Phlox Paniculata	Summer Phlox
Pelemonium Reptans	Jacob's Ladder
Pontederia Cordata	Pickerel Weed
Rudbeckia Laciniata	Cut-Leaved Coneflower
Sagittaria Latifolia	Broadleaf Arrowhead
Senecio Aureus	Golden Ragwort
Solidago Rugosa	Rough-Stemmed Goldenrod
Vernonia Noveboracensis	New York Ironweed
Viola Cucullata	March Blue Violet

A Cardinal Flower.

A Great Blue Lobelia.

An Eastern Rosemallow.

A Ten-Petaled Sunflower.

C. Parking Lots

Create parking "rooms" through the use of plants, fencing, and walls. Break large parking areas into smaller "rooms" to reduce their scale and visually soften. Plant 1 tree for every 4 parking spaces.

Plant: Platanus x acerifolia (London Planetree), Quercus acutissima (Sawtooth Oak), Quercus phellos (Willow Oak).

Pattern & Spacing: Row at 20' o.c.

The use of Willow Oak (above) and other tree varieties are ideal for softening parking areas.

D. Parking Lot Edges

Plant: Carpinus betulus (European Hornbeam), Ilex spp. (Holly), Ligustrum obtusifolium (Border Privet), Myrica cerifera (Southern Wax Myrtle), Rhamnus spp. (Buckthorn), Thuja occidentalis spp (Arborvitae).

Pattern & Spacing: Hedge at 3'-6' o.c.

Eauropean Hornbeam (above) or Common Buckthorn (right) trees can be planted at the edges of parking areas.