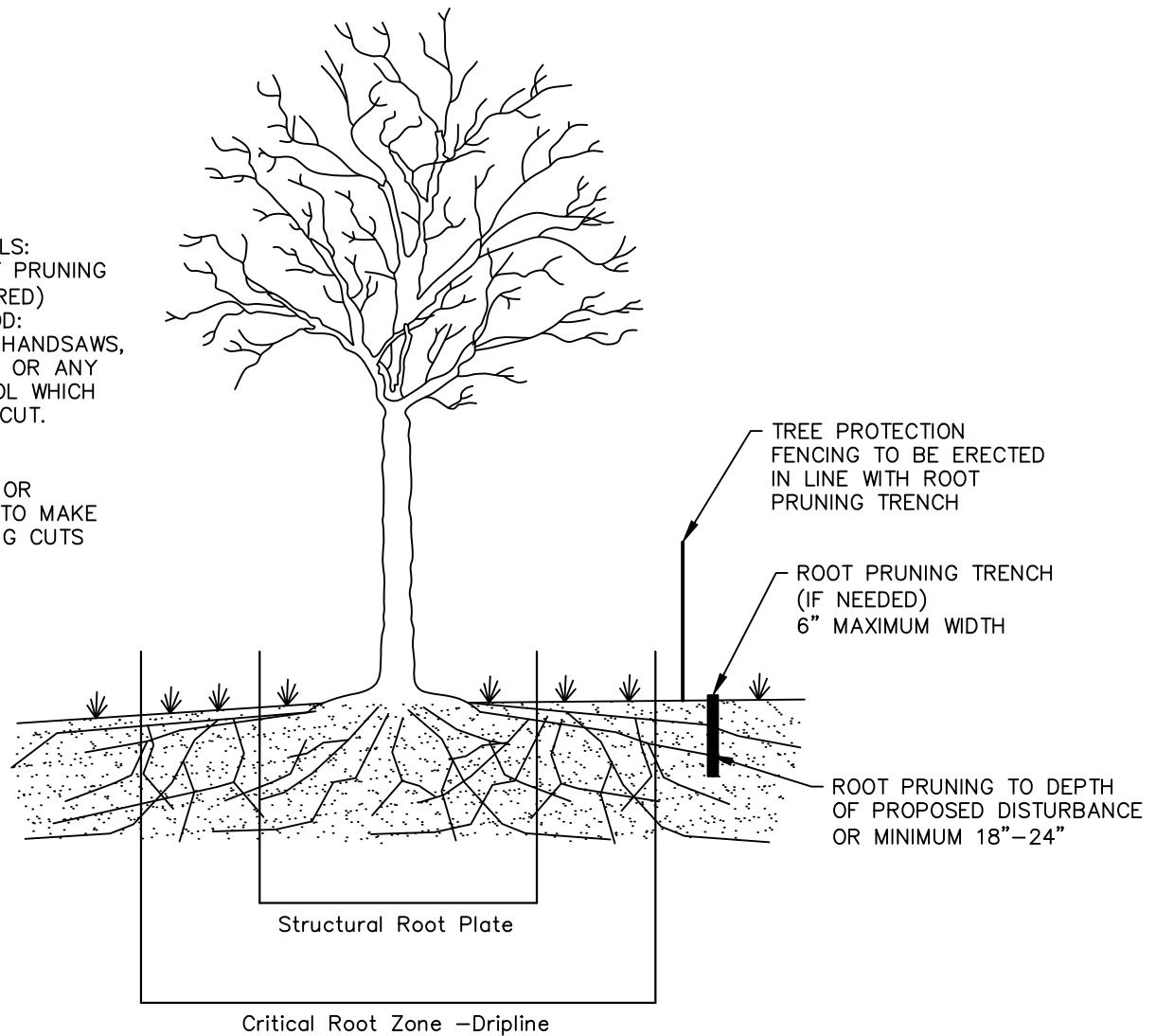


APPROPRIATE TOOLS:
MECHANICAL ROOT PRUNING
MACHINE (PREFERRED)
ALTERNATE METHOD:
LOPPING SHEERS, HANDSAWS,
SHARPENED AXES, OR ANY
OTHER SHARP TOOL WHICH
LEAVES A CLEAN CUT.

DO NOT
USE A CHAINSAW OR
CHAIN TRENCHER TO MAKE
THE FINAL PRUNING CUTS



MINIMUM "NO WORK" ZONE DISTANCES FOR TREES OF DIFFERENT SIZES:

DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT (IN)	CRZ (radius in ft)	STRUCTURAL ROOT PLATE (FT)*
8 OR LESS	DIAMETER OF TREE	1-6
9-24	DIAMETER OF TREE	6-9
24 OR GREATER	DIAMETER OF TREE	9-12

*STRUCTURAL ROOT PLATE MEASUREMENTS ARE APPROXIMATE

ROOT PRUNING STANDARD



northbrook
Public Works Department

DATE	REVISIONS
4-30-20	New Detail

**STANDARD DETAIL
G-13 (01)**

ROOT PRUNING STANDARD

Root Pruning Specifications

1. Root pruning should be performed by a qualified tree care expert using an approved mechanical root pruning machine whenever an excavation is to be performed within the critical root zone or dripline of a tree. Roots are to be cleanly severed from the tree in order to prevent ripping and tearing damage that would be caused by a backhoe or trenching machine.
2. No more than one side of a tree shall be pruned in any given year, nor more than 1/3 of the tree's root system be removed.
3. Root control barriers may be used where appropriate in the root pruning trench after pruning but prior to backfilling with soil to prevent future root growth past the barrier.
4. All root pruning must be inspected and approved by Northbrook Forestry Department prior to work beginning and upon pruning completion.
5. NO work shall be performed within the structural root plate of any tree. Root pruning in this designated area could sever very important structural roots, possibly de-stabilizing the tree. Utilities proposed in this area will need to directionally bored under the tree.

How to Root Prune:

The preferred method for root pruning is with a machine designed for the specific task of pruning roots.

Exposing and Pruning Roots (if a machine cannot be used)

1. The soil is removed by hand or utilizing an air knife to expose the roots before pruning. This is called making a root pruning trench. Do Not use an excavator to open the root pruning trench.
2. Once exposed, use a SHARP tool to cleanly cut all roots which are 1-2" diameter to the depth of the proposed disturbance or to a depth of 18"-24".
3. Appropriate hand tools are sharp lopping shears, handsaws, sharpened axes, a reciprocating saw (sawzall) and any other sharp tool which leaves a clean cut. Do Not use a chainsaw or chain trencher to make the final pruning cuts.
4. For roots larger than 2 diameter inches that are exposed between the structural root plate and critical root zone, call a qualified Certified Arborist or Forestry Department to discuss whether cutting that root may de-stabilize the tree.
5. All roots shall be left with a clean, smooth end and no ragged edges.
6. After pruning, soil from the same area is put into the root pruning trench to encourage root regrowth in that area. Water root pruning trench.

Post Root Pruning Care

1. Tree roots must be kept moist. If pruned root ends will be left exposed for more than 8 hours, cover the hole with moist burlap.
2. Fill the hole with soil from the same area and mulch the area with shredded hardwood mulch to a depth of 3".
3. Water the trench to settle the backfill and ensure the area around the tree is sufficiently moist.
4. If major roots are required to be removed or more than 1/3 of the tree's roots pruned, the tree may require different care or the project specifications may need to be modified to preserve the tree. For mature trees, no more than 30% of roots may be pruned.

Arrange for an appointment with Northbrook's Forestry Department to discuss the root pruning requirements set forth in your approved permit at least 1 to 2 weeks prior to root excavation and/or pruning.



DATE	REVISIONS
4-30-20	New Notes

STANDARD DETAIL
G-13 (01)