

275 Tree and Palm Relocation

275.1 General

This chapter provides the criteria and requirements for relocation of trees and palms. For Tree and Palm Relocation plan content, refer to **FDM 944**.

Relocation of trees and palms requires the approval of the District Landscape Architect.

Develop a root pruning and relocation plan tailored to the species being relocated. Time periods required between root pruning and relocation must be in accordance with industry standards and **Supplemental Specification 581**.

275.2 Relocation Considerations

When deciding to relocate a tree or palm, consider the following:

- (1) Protected tree or palm species ([**Florida Department of Agriculture Endangered Plant Species**](#)), or local jurisdictional regulations
- (2) Cost effectiveness of relocation (i.e., cost and benefit of relocating existing trees versus purchasing new nursery material)
- (3) Tree or palm condition (e.g., size, form, health, structure)
- (4) Aesthetic, historical, cultural, community, and environmental value
- (5) Functional characteristics and engineering (e.g., safety considerations)
- (6) Negative public perceptions regarding removal of healthy trees
- (7) Overall suitability for relocating:
 - (a) Desirable and disease-resistant species
 - (b) Survivability
 - (c) Required establishment period
 - (d) Impact to construction schedule
 - (e) Removal, transport, or installation issues

275.3 Relocation Site Selection

For construction projects, trees or palms must be relocated to a site that is within or near the project limits, which decreases transport costs and increases the survival rate.

For maintenance-let landscape projects, an off-site location may be considered when there is not sufficient space to relocate a tree on-site. Off-site relocations must meet the following requirements:

- Relocation site is within the district in which the contract is let
- Acceptable plan for care during establishment period
- A written agreement with the maintaining agency has been obtained