

Changing Procedures in Urban Tree Planting and Management
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Coping with abiotic problems offers ongoing challenges for managing woody plant landscapes. In recent years, numerous improvements in methods and procedures have followed understanding and insights provided by arboricultural research. Morton Arboretum staff have been significant participants in both research and its application.

Some examples of changing management procedures:

1. Wound painting on branch cuts – no longer recommended.
2. Flush cutting of branches – no longer recommended
3. Recognition of the special role of compost in mulching trees
4. Value of tub grinding to reduce sizes of mulch material for faster decomposition and consolidation
5. Desirability of keeping composted mulch at a four to five inch depth with no mulch against the trunk
6. Introduction of slow-release nitrogen which imitates re-cycling of nutrients on the forest floor
7. Value of wide-hole tree planting for rapid root proliferation and tree establishment
8. Recognition of uneasy coexistence of trees and grass
9. Growing acceptance of fall tree planting, especially for oaks and slow rooting trees
10. Growing improvements in selection of trees to match sites

