

# TREE APPRAISAL GUIDELINES FOR THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION

## Developed 2021

The Guide for Plant Appraisal (10<sup>th</sup> edition, revised) was written by The Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers and published by The International Society of Arboriculture for tree and landscape appraisals. It is not a rule book, not regulations, and not standards for plant appraisals, but is published as a guide for plant appraisers. The individual appraiser is to use his or her expertise to identify the appraisal problem and then to solve the problem based on their experience. The Guide states, “This edition of the *guide* is organized to guide the appraiser through the plant appraisal process.”

In the past, this information was included in a booklet of tree species ratings, but tree species is no longer used in tree appraisal calculations.

This information is to be used in calculations for the trunk formula technique as described in the revised 10<sup>th</sup> edition. The Guide suggests that each geographic region, ours is the MAC-ISA region, appoint a committee to identify “the largest commonly available nursery-grown tree.” “It is not THE largest available nursery grown tree, but the largest COMMONLY available nursery-grown tree that is important.” (emphasis added) The trunk diameter cross sectional area of this replacement tree and the unit tree cost are inserted in the proper place on the trunk formula technique worksheet.

The committee determined the following for this replacement tree data;

Most commonly sold species	Red maple
Largest commonly available tree size	3-inch caliper
Cross sectional area of 3-inch tree	7-square inches
Wholesale cost of 3-inch tree	\$300.00
Unit tree cost	\$43.00

This committee was comprised of;

Lew Bloch	Bloch Consulting Group
Lisa Stadler	Stadler Nurseries
Ronda Roemmelt	Ruppert Nursery
Dave Norden	LSG Landscape Architecture

Appraisers who wish to use their own cost figures could generate their own numbers based on their own thorough research.

The replacement tree installation cost may be added after the computations. This cost may be provided by a landscape contractor, or it is commonly calculated by multiplying the wholesale cost by a selected factor. For one or two trees or if the site is complicated, it is commonly four to six times cost. For larger quantities or simple planting sites, it is commonly three times cost.