



June 11, 2025

Rick Pucak, General Manager, Detroit Thermal

As the consulting arborist for this project, I have been retained and developed a comprehensive tree protection and mitigation plan aimed at minimizing damage to existing trees within the construction impact zone. Below are my general site plant protection recommendations, and specific recommendations for the four directly impacted plants identified as Plants 1 through 4, as referenced in the accompanying plan set.

Where machinery must cross over root zones, temporary ground protection will be installed. This may include construction-grade plywood or steel plating to disperse weight and reduce compaction.

A preferred equipment access route through the park has also been reviewed. Trees located along this designated path should be protected using high-visibility barrier fencing—commonly referred to as tree protection fencing. This fencing should be installed as far from the trunks as feasible, ideally at or beyond the dripline, to create a buffer zone and keep all equipment confined to the approved path.

Prior to removal, the multi-stem flower hawthorn identified as “Plant 1” should be thoroughly watered for several days to reduce transplant shock and improve root ball integrity. A root ball of appropriate size should be carefully dug and wrapped to preserve as much of the root system as possible. The tree should be relocated promptly to a prepared planting site with well-drained soil and proper spacing. After replanting, the tree should be thoroughly watered and mulched, avoiding direct contact with the trunk. A slow-release root stimulant may be applied to encourage establishment. The tree should be monitored weekly for signs of stress and watered regularly throughout the first growing season, especially during dry periods. Structural pruning should be avoided until the tree shows signs of successful reestablishment. Post install, a deep root feeding of a low salt fertilizer Mycorrhizae and soil conditioner should be applied to speed up reestablishment and supplement nutrients lost from the compromised root system. Establishment feedings are recommended annually for the next three years.

Once the work area has been clearly staked in the field and excavation limits defined, targeted root pruning will be performed on the 24” diameter honey locust identified as “Plant 2” on the plans. This will help prevent tearing and shock caused by excavation equipment severing roots haphazardly, improving long-term tree health outcomes.



In addition, the 8" diameter blue spruce identified as "Plant 3" on the plans that interferes with equipment clearance will be selectively pruned in advance. All pruning work will follow proper ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) standards to preserve tree structure, health, and natural form.

The multi-stem crab apple identified as "Plant 4" will undergo selective pruning to allow adequate access beneath its canopy to the marked work area near the walkway off Lafayette. All pruning will be performed in accordance with ANSI A300 standards to ensure best practices are followed and the health of the tree is maintained.

Following completion of the work, I will return to perform deep root fertilization on trees with pruned roots and others in areas where soil compaction may have occurred. This post-construction feeding will support recovery and promote healthy regrowth. To ensure continued health and long-term resilience, a multi-year deep root feeding program is strongly recommended for affected trees.

This plan is designed to reduce the risk of irreversible damage to the trees during construction and ensure their long-term survival and structural stability.

Dave Scherer

Owner

ISA Certified Arborist #MI-4183A – Plant Health Care Specialist

NCCER Certified Crane Operator

The Tree Surgeon

O: 586-263-7818

C: 586-531-6613

www.thetreesurgeonmi.com