



*Village of Menomonee Falls  
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## **Policy for Landscaping In and Around Infrastructure**

### **Village of Menomonee Falls Engineering Department**

The Village of Menomonee Falls is committed to aesthetic enhancement of development and redevelopment projects through comprehensive landscape requirements. This policy shall be used in conjunction with the Village of Menomonee Falls Landscaping Guidelines and Zoning Regulations to design landscaping plans which meet Village landscaping requirements while not adversely affecting operation and maintenance of public improvements.

#### **Stormwater Facilities**

Stormwater Facilities are defined as detention basins, retention basins, outlet structures, inlet structures, storm sewer piping, underground storage facilities, swales, berms or any structure and/or grading associated with stormwater management. Trees, shrubs, bushes, and perennial plants may be planted around stormwater facilities, however, the minimum clear zone distances for planting of trees, shrubs, bushes, and perennial plants are as follows:

1. No trees, bushes, shrubs, or any woody vegetation shall be located on the top or on the downward slopes of an embankment/berm of a stormwater facility. An earthen embankment/berm is created as part of a basin to impound water.
2. Where a pond is cut into an existing slope; no trees, bushes, shrubs, or any woody vegetation shall be located on the downward embankment/berm of the pond.
3. Shrubs, bushes, or other woody vegetation (except trees) must maintain a minimum distance of 10 feet from storm sewer pipes, outlet structures, manholes, and emergency overflow weirs.
4. Trees located near detention/retention basins must be kept a minimum distance of 25 feet away from storm sewer pipes, outlet structures, manholes, and emergency overflow weirs.
5. Trees, bushes, shrubs and perennial plants may be planted in drainage swales as long as the natural flow of water is not impeded in accordance with the approved stormwater plan. All plantings located within drainage swales must be approved by the Engineering Department prior to installation.
6. No trees shall be planted over or within 10 feet of any underground stormwater storage facility. Bushes or shrubs that reach a maximum height and width of 30 inches are allowed.
7. No grading or change in elevation shall be performed within a detention/retention easement area without the express written consent of the Engineering Department.
8. Bark, mulch or any other type of ground cover that may wash into a stormwater facility must be kept a minimum distance of 10 feet from any inlet structure, drainage swale or basin slope in excess of 4:1.
9. No structures of any kind will be allowed within stormwater facilities. This includes, but is not limited to retaining walls, buildings, monument signs, etc. The Engineering Department, at its sole discretion, will determine what constitutes a structure in applying this landscaping policy.

#### **Utility Easements**

Utility Easements are areas located outside the public right-of-way where municipal facilities are installed, or to be installed. Municipal Facilities are any mains, structures, appurtenances or equipment associated with sanitary sewers, the water mains, and storm sewers that are owned and maintained by the Village of Menomonee Falls.

1. No shrubs, bushes, or any woody vegetation that will exceed a maximum mature height and width of 30 inches shall be allowed within utility easements.
2. Shrubs, bushes, and woody vegetation allowed within the utility easement must be kept a minimum distance of 10 feet from hydrants, manholes, valves, appurtenances, or any municipal facility where periodic access and maintenance are required.
3. No trees shall be planted within utility easements.
4. No structures of any kind will be allowed within utility easements. This includes, but is not limited to rock outcroppings, retaining walls, buildings, and monument signs. The Engineering Department, at its sole discretion, will determine what constitutes a structure in applying this landscaping policy.
5. Berms exceeding 18 inches in height shall not be constructed over or across utility easements.