



How to Get from Specs to Sustainable Urban Forests???



- **Do the specifications always mean success?**
 - Working with nurseries and contractors
- **Ensure implementation of specs leads to successful plantings**

How Do We Assess Success?



The Basic Flaw?



... In the suburbs or the city

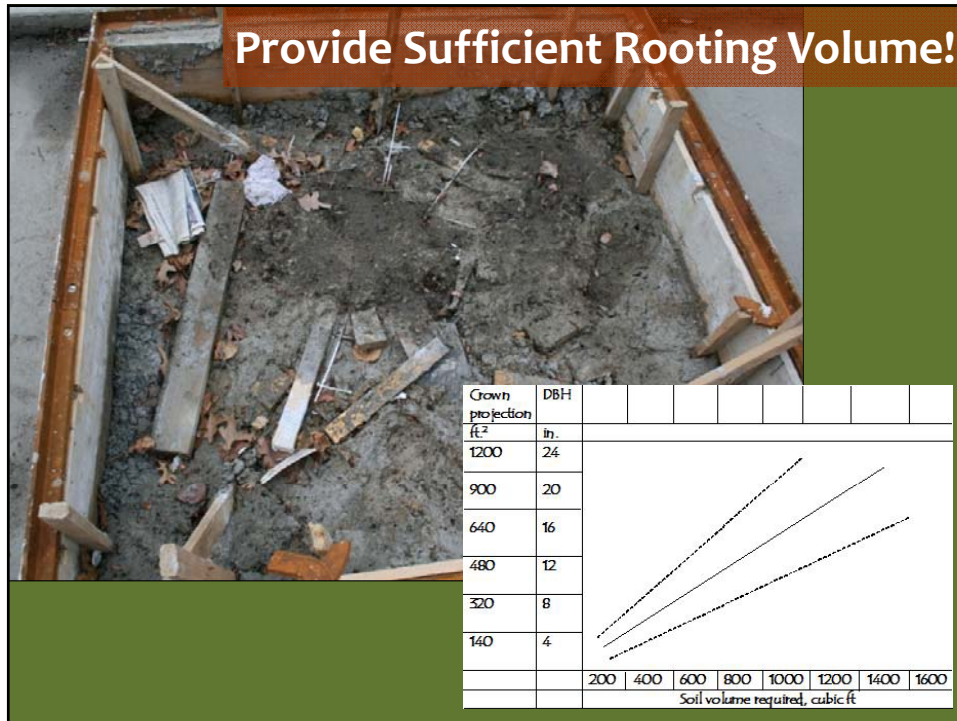


Start Smart: with the Site...




We can make it hospitable or not...

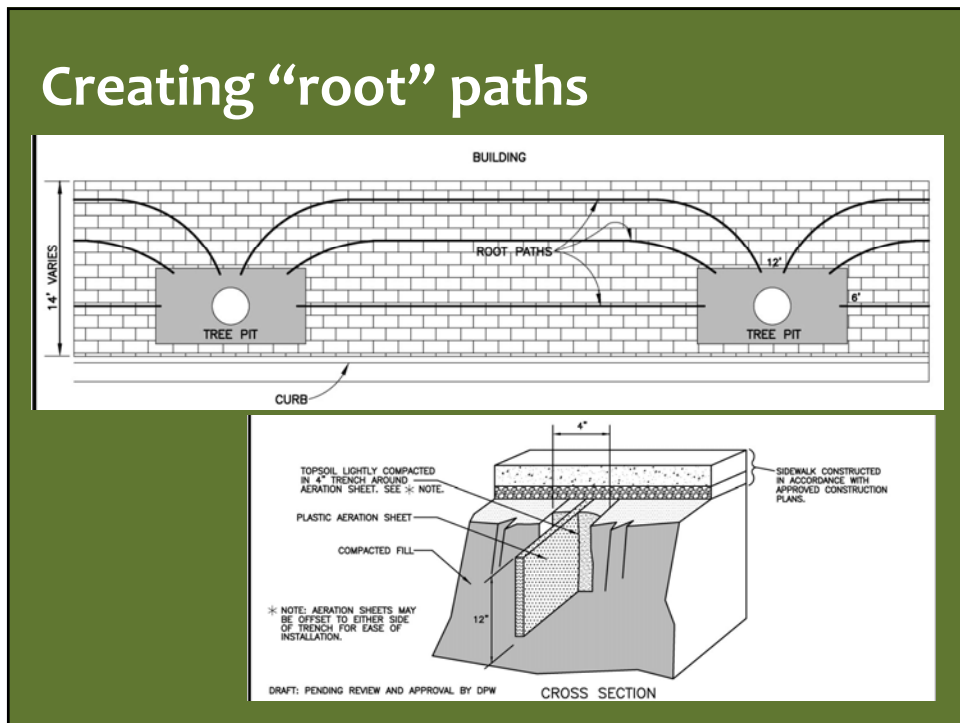
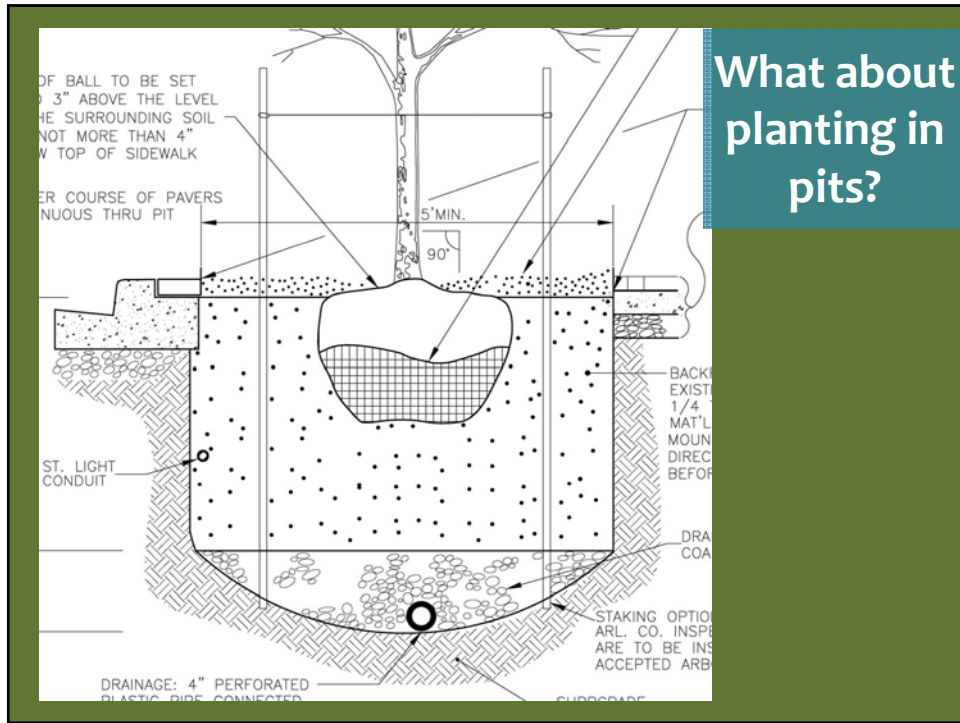




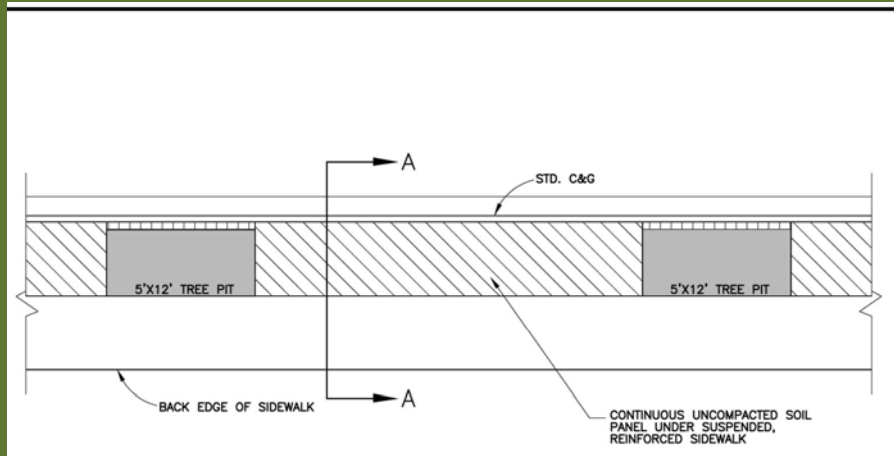
Typical urban planting site

- 3' x 6' x 4' deep = 72 ft.³
- This would not be sufficient to support a 4" DBH tree with 140 ft.² crown (200 ft.³)





Continuous planting strip



Planting on the large scale site...





We really need to move beyond this...



Plant Establishment- How long?



For a 2" caliper tree :
1 year in zones 7-8
2 years in zone 2-6
6 months in zones 9-11

With some conditions



Procedures that encourage establishment



1. Proper irrigation Management
2. Loose soil
3. Mulch ring of about 8' around planting hole
4. Root flare slightly above grade
5. Leaving top unpruned

What to Ask from the Nursery and Contractors?

- Good communication is key!
- Make sure everyone from contractor to nursery knows your expectations
- Be specific, but realistic
 - Be willing to pay more for more



Wrap Up



- Good communication is key!
- Require high quality planting stock
 - Follow generally accepted practices
 - Be reasonable and practical
 - Remember trees are alive!
- Require proper, reasonable transport and planting techniques