



Forestry Division
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Slackline Tree Protection Guidelines 4-30-15

The following tree protection measures as determined by the City Forester shall be strictly adhered to by any person when attaching a slackline to a City tree

1. Slacklining activity that attaches to City trees is only allowed in developed neighborhood or community parks where adequate monitoring of the activity for compliance to these tree protection requirements can occur.
2. All trees attached to with a slackline must be at least 18 inches diameter (57 inches circumference which is the distance around the trunk) measured at 4 feet above the ground.
3. At the point of attachment there needs to be adequate padding to protect the trunk of the trees. Adequate padding shall be a substantial pillow or other cushioning material that separates the slackline attachment from the trunk at all places of contact.
4. Only broadleaf trees that do not have any branches or forks to the trunk below 5 feet shall be attached to. Evergreen trees such as pine, spruce, fir or juniper shall not be attached to with a slackline due to the potential of damage to low branches.
5. The point of attachment of any slackline shall not be more than 4 feet above the ground. This is to ensure the force from the slackline is applied only to the lower trunk where there is greater structural strength and the bark is thicker.
6. The maximum distance between any two trees that are attached to with a slackline system is 60 feet.
7. Only one person is allowed to apply weight to a slackline at any one time.
8. Slacklines shall not be placed across non-turf areas (except mulch zones around trees), sidewalks, roads, trails, sports fields, playgrounds or across any other area of high pedestrian activity. This is to prevent the increased chance of force being applied to a slackline in a horizontal direction or from force being applied to a slackline by a vehicle.
9. Slackline attachment to City trees shall only occur during daylight hours.
10. Slacklines shall not be left unattended. Persons attaching slacklines to City trees must be present at all times at the actual location in the park while the slackline is attached to a City tree.
11. No more than two trees shall be attached to with any slackline system at one time.
12. Slacklines shall have red or orange marking tape that hangs at least 6 inches below the line. Marking tape shall be placed at intervals of not less than 10 feet. This is to improve the ability of Park Rangers to monitor slackline activity for compliance with these tree protection requirements.

Problems arising from non-compliance to these tree protection requirements will result in a review of the need to prohibit slackline attachments to City trees.

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