PROJECT FRONT YARD

LAFAYETTE

NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT TOOLKIT

Prepared by:
Lafayette Consolidated Government

with assistance of Wallace Robert Todd [WRT]

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01 INTRODUCTION

1. OVERVIEW

This Project Toolkit is a complement to the Neighborhood Leadership Program and Planning Process Handbook. The Project Toolkit is designed to help neighborhoods implement neighborhood-scale projects. The Toolkit features 20 specific "Do-It-Yourself" projects that residents and neighborhoods can undertake with limited governmental assistance; highlights local resources and best local, regional and national practices; and includes tips for organizing and fundraising to implement these types of projects. Neighborhood groups can use the Toolkit to generate project ideas, as well as access step-by-step guidance and resources.

LCG intends for the toolkit to be a stand alone, expandable, searchable, and web-based, so that additional neighborhood project ideas, resources, and case studies can be made available to Lafayette's neighborhoods in the future.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO PLANLAFAYETTE AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING PROCESS

PlanLafayette establishes a community vision that, among other things, prioritizes Lafayette's neighborhoods as opportunities for reinvestment and enhanced livability. The Plan, endorsed in July 2014, contains goals, policies and actions geared toward protecting, improving and reinforcing the character of our neighborhoods. Key recommended actions that substantiate the importance of our neighborhoods include:

- FLU 1.2.2: "Build capacity for local neighborhood planning through a citizen planner and advocacy program that provides training, examples of best practices, and information about resources available to improve neighborhoods."

- FLU 1.2.3: "Produce a Neighborhood Planning Citizen Handbook designed to nurture better grassroots understanding of the neighborhood planning program."

- FLU 1.2.4: "Develop a neighborhood program that provides the tools necessary to complete projects and other neighborhood-scale initiatives."

By providing tools to complete projects, the Project Toolkit fulfills Action FLU 1.2.4 and is an implementation tool of LCG's Neighborhood Planning process. It is designed to empower and position residents and neighborhood groups to make improvements in their own community whether that is catalyst project identified in a neighborhood plan or neighborhood building effort. In either case these projects are in accordance with the big-picture policy framework of PlanLafayette.

3. HOW TO USE THE TOOLKIT

The Project Toolkit consists of a "bundle" of twenty projects that neighborhood groups can implement with limited assistance from outside parties. The projects in the toolkit have been organized under three major headings or project types:

A. Natural Features & Conservation: These are projects that protect, restore and/or enhance the neighborhood's existing natural assets and promote stewardship of the natural environment, while beautifying the community. They include sustainable practices such as tree-planting efforts and simple green infrastructure projects. Because local features are usually part of regional networks and systems, these types of projects can contribute to improving the overall health of the larger natural community, as well the well-being of the population.

B. Neighborhood Character: The projects under this heading encourage character-sensitive investment in the public and private built realm of the neighborhood, both to preserve and reinforce neighborhood identity and to enhance neighborhood livability. Project types include residential and commercial improvement efforts; urban design improvements; and creative service delivery programs.

C. Community Connection: The aims of this group of projects include promoting a stronger sense of neighborhood; creating ties between and among residents, local organizations, neighborhood businesses and other community members; and establishing greater levels of empowerment and self-sufficiency among residents. Community connection projects can accomplish things such as helping to improve neighborhood safety and making available resources to those in need.

A project is essentially a planned set of interrelated tasks that are executed over a fixed period of time, and within certain cost and other limitations, to achieve a particular purpose. As shown on pages 8-9, each project in the Toolkit consists of one or two double-page spreads containing basic information about the project:

- a brief explanation of the project purpose
- a description of the benefits to be gained from the project
- a simple description of the steps necessary to carry out the project

Each project is cross-referenced to related projects, as well as with actions from PlanLafayette that help frame and provide rationale for the project. In addition, each project spread offers examples of "best" local, regional and/or national practices and a list of supplementary resources that users can consult to learn more.

Ideally, the Project Toolkit will help neighborhoods carry out strategies and actions that are part of a long-term neighborhood vision and planning framework. If they do not already have a neighborhood plan in place, neighborhood groups are encouraged to undertake a planning process (using the Planning Process Handbook and support from LCG) to coalesce residents around a neighborhood-specific vision and to establish the framework of actions and projects that will best advance the collective vision. A neighborhood planning process is also a great platform for residents to build the relationships, organize, and gain the momentum necessary to implement neighborhood projects.

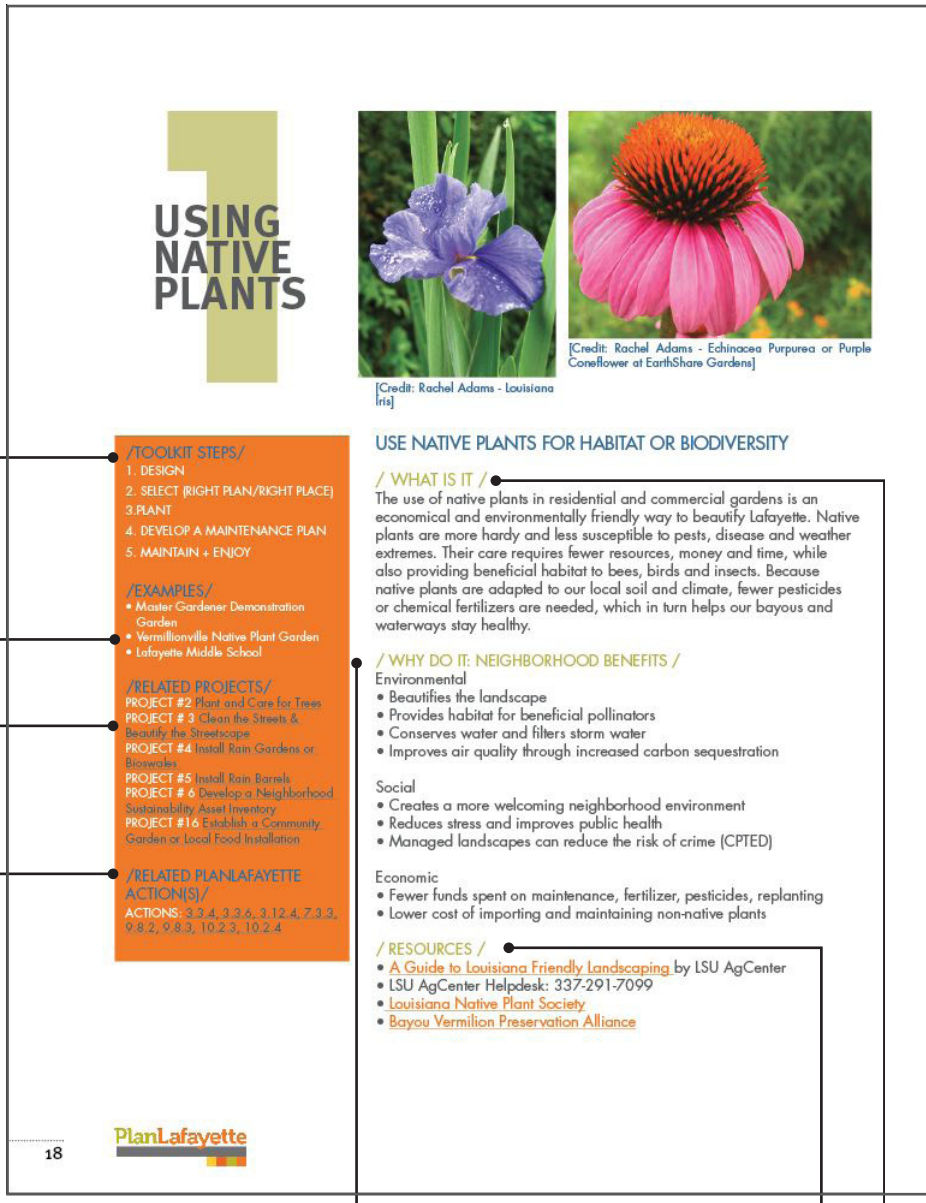
In choosing a neighborhood project, focus on a specific issue that will demonstrate action and results. Promote the project or event creatively and extensively to get the whole community behind it. This establishes credibility for the organization, which is crucial for sustainability. Small project successes build confidence and power to tackle more complicated issues facing your neighborhood.

There are a variety of tools and funding sources available to implement neighborhood projects. Keep in mind that project funding usually require a combination of several types of resources, ranging from financial support, to materials and volunteers.

In this section you will find a description of some proven funding methods that you should consider. To come up with ideas for funding your project, keep a creative perspective on, and leverage, the assets and resources that you have available in your neighborhood. Consider the type of fundraising effort that best fits the available resources and allows you to keep your costs low.

It is key to prepare a realistic project plan and budget as a basis for developing a funding strategy to cover the budget needs. When creating the project budget, determine the actual cost of items to be used. Make sure to keep all expense receipts to account for project costs.

If your project is going to be on public space (e.g. a neighborhood street or park), please consider that all projects are required to comply with applicable regulations. As you plan, research relevant information about permits or liability insurance that may be needed, and account for the cost involved and the time necessary to process these, if they apply. LCG can assist your neighborhood group to identify any applicable requirements.



1

USING NATIVE PLANTS

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Louisiana Iris]

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Echinacea Purpurea or Purple Coneflower at EarthShare Gardens]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. DESIGN
2. SELECT (RIGHT PLAN/RIGHT PLACE)
3.PLANT
4. DEVELOP A MAINTENANCE PLAN
5. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

/EXAMPLES/
- Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
- Vermillionville Native Plant Garden
- Lafayette Middle School

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #2 Plant and Care for Trees
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT #4 Install Rain Gardens or Bioswales
PROJECT #5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT #16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.3.4, 3.3.6, 3.12.4, 7.3.3, 9.8.2, 9.8.3, 10.2.3, 10.2.4

USE NATIVE PLANTS FOR HABITAT OR BIODIVERSITY

/ WHAT IS IT /
The use of native plants in residential and commercial gardens is an economical and environmentally friendly way to beautify Lafayette. Native plants are more hardy and less susceptible to pests, disease and weather extremes. Their care requires fewer resources, money and time, while also providing beneficial habitat to bees, birds and insects. Because native plants are adapted to our local soil and climate, fewer pesticides or chemical fertilizers are needed, which in turn helps our bayous and waterways stay healthy.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Beautifies the landscape
- Provides habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Conserves water and filters storm water
- Improves air quality through increased carbon sequestration

Social
- Creates a more welcoming neighborhood environment
- Reduces stress and improves public health
- Managed landscapes can reduce the risk of crime (CPTED)

Economic
- Fewer funds spent on maintenance, fertilizer, pesticides, replanting
- Lower cost of importing and maintaining non-native plants

/ RESOURCES /
- A Guide to Louisiana Friendly Landscaping by LSU AgCenter
- LSU AgCenter Helpdesk: 337-291-7099
- Louisiana Native Plant Society
- Bayou Vermilion Preservation Alliance

18 PlanLafayette

*Steps required for planning/ design and implementation are listed here; details are found on the "How to do it" section**

Project types that exemplify the use of this tool

*References to related projects within this toolkit**

*Reference to Plan-Lafayette actions**

Reasons for supporting the project describe how the project can enrich your neighborhood unit and the community in general

References to additional useful information about this type of project

Short description of what the project is about

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Rabbit Eye Blueberry Bush is a great food-producing native plant]

[Credit: Kenneth Robertson - Butterfly Milkweed]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. DESIGN

Native plants can be incorporated into any home, school or workplace landscape very easily. Consider your optimal space, water and light before planting, as well as your budget. The Louisiana Native Plant Society has a list of regional resources as well as the Lafayette Garden Club. The USDA publishes fact sheets on over 1,000 varieties of native plants. A short list of plants recommended by Bill Fontenot, the "Nature Dude", includes: indian pink (Spigelia marilandica), Louisiana phlox (Phlox divarcata 'Louisiana'), copper iris (Iris fulva), and black-eyed susan (Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldstrum'). Others are coneflower, irises, butterfly milkweed, salvias, rabbiteye blueberry bush.

Postage Stamp Prairies are another way to incorporate native plants into your landscape. Parts of the Acadiana region are biologically and historically known to be a prairieland ecosystem. Natural and manmade wildfires made prairie ecosystem plants evolve to require fire to reproduce. Read more on the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society. Coreopsis, coneflower, milkweed, and asters are just a few plants to use to recreate a small prairie garden. Butterfly gardens use native plants to provide habitat and food for butterflies. Learn more here: Tips on Butterfly Gardening.

STEP 2. SELECT (RIGHT PLANT/RIGHT PLACE)

Consider the amount of sunlight or shade when choosing your native plants. A list of locally adapted native plants can be found in several locations on the LSU AgCenter website.

STEP 3. PLANT

Native plant gardens are best when installed in fall or early spring, so plants can develop a root system before the summer heat. The garden bed should be prepped with compost and tilled appropriately. Leaf mulch can be added for weed control. Free compost is available from the Lafayette Consolidated Government. For more information, call 291-8529.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Armour Villa Neighborhood
[Bronxville, New York]

The opportunity to create a native plant garden came up with a plot of overgrown land on the corner of Bronxville Rd and Vera Rd. The project evolved under the direction of Kim Eierman, owner of a landscape consulting firm and a board member of the Armour Villa Neighborhood Association. Located at the entrance of the neighborhood, the garden enhances the experience of entering the neighborhood and for residents to stroll. The project was made possible with the Master Gardeners volunteering as well as student volunteers from Cornell Univeristy.

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*Brief description of national, regional or local relevant case studies that can generate ideas or provide additional guidance**

Detailed step-by-step process, from inception to implementation, for each project

*Note: * Click on the hyperlinks to be directed to outside resources*

02 HOW TO FUND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT

The Urban Land Institute (ULI) publication "Ten Principles for Successful Public/Private Partnerships" outlines the following keys to success. While these are framed in the context of large-scale development and infrastructure projects, they are also applicable to small-scale neighborhood project partnerships:

- Prepare Properly for Public/Private Partnerships
- Create a Shared Vision
- Understand Your Partners and Key Players
- Be Clear on the Risks and Rewards for All Parties
- Establish a Clear and Rational Decision-Making Process
- Make Sure All Parties Do Their Homework
- Secure Consistent and Coordinated Leadership
- Communicate Early and Often
- Negotiate a Fair Deal Structure
- Build Trust as a Core Value

1. PARTNERSHIPS

A partnership is an arrangement where parties, or partners, agree to cooperate to advance their mutual interests. Partnerships exist within, and across, sectors. Public and private sector organizations, non-profits, institutional, religious and political organizations may partner in a variety of combinations to increase the likelihood of each achieving their mission and to amplify their reach.

Partnerships are a process, not a product. The public-private partnership process requires a significant degree of effort and skill to assessing, and then balancing, public and private interests and minimizing conflicts, but it can also offer the greatest reward.

- Public-Private Partnerships

A public-private partnership (referred to as PPP or P3) is defined as a government service or private venture which is funded and often also maintained and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector entities. A partnership between the local government and a neighborhood group may involve things such as a one-time grant, technical services, fee waivers, or other contributions (e.g., a minimal-cost lease on public land for a parklet or community garden, sidewalk and crosswalk improvements as part of a gateway project, etc.).

Although each public/private partnership project is unique in its local implementation, most share common stages. Be sure to have a clear project proposal to present before approaching your public sector partner(s) for support. Validate the project purpose within the framework of your neighborhood plan, if one exists, or PlanLafayette.

1. Partner Identification: Assess your capabilities in the context of what needs to be accomplished and look for partners that can fill the gaps. Invest time and effort in getting to know and understand your potential partners.

2. Conceptualization and Initiation: During this stage, the partners and stakeholders are identified and brought together to envision and plan the project details. Manage expectations through the project plan, schedule and budget processes.

3. Documentation: Here, the parties document the partnership and begin to define roles and responsibilities. Consider creating a "balance sheet" of risk and reward factors specific to the project and its participants. Where feasible, values should be quantified. Agree on and document process to ensure transparency and facilitate the sharing of information about the project. Communicate early and often!

4. Securing Support: During this stage, the partnership attempts to obtain support from all stakeholders and project team members, as well as funding support.

5. Execution: Implementation of the project begins. The partnership may extend beyond project completion, or remain in place to pursue future projects together.

- Neighborhood Partnerships

Government is not the only potential partner option available. In addition to, or instead of, partnering with a governmental unit, you may consider approaching charitable or research non-profit organizations (e.g., a hospital's health foundation); the school district; community development corporations (CDCs); civic, cultural and arts groups; or nearby neighborhood groups if your project aligns with the goals and expectations those groups.

The process to bring these types of partners to the table is similar to the process already outlined above for public-private sector partners.

2. FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is the process of raising both money and enthusiasm for a neighborhood project by selling goods and services or holding events.

There are many types of fundraising, and these days organizations keep coming up with new fundraising campaign ideas. Communication is fundamental to fundraising. Individuals are often driven by an emotional connection to an issue. Foundations tend to fund (and sometimes seek out) an organization they have heard of. Corporations seek projects to enhance their brand or raise employee morale (e.g., through a volunteer effort). For this reason, an effective communications strategy is critical. Social networking, as a place where you can engage those interested in your group and your issues, is a good example of a communications function that can support fundraising efforts.

Listed below are some of the most common methods for raising funds.

- Fundraising types
  - Sponsorships: This type of fundraising typically refers to corporate sponsors, but it can include small local businesses and non-profit organizations. Corporate sponsorships occur when for-profit corporations donate to your project campaign, without an expectation of profit, often with a simple expectation of free publicity. Many companies also have matching gift programs.

- Donor Participation: Cultivating a broad base of individual donors is critical to fundraising success. Examples of donor participation campaigns include direct mail gift campaigns, pledge campaigns among friends and family, door-to-door sales and congregational events where everyone is invited to a fundraising event at a specific time and place (e.g., silent auction). The most effective fundraising events typically are characterized by a clear target market; minimal competition with other events; and a committed volunteer base to help plan, organize and spread the word. Most importantly, successful fundraising events feature fun, unique content and a clear connection to the project goals.

  —Crowdsourcing: Crowdsourcing is a digital-age variation of traditional donor participation campaigns. In crowdsourcing, a large group of people pools small amounts of their own money to support a project – but it is done entirely online and therefore may have a national and even international reach. Websites such as Kickstarter, Indiegogo, and Crowdfunder provide opportunities for a group to pitch their idea or project using a video or recorded speech. Lafayette also has its own local crowdsourcing platform, civicside Acadiana. civicside has successfully funded several projects in Lafayette since its founding in 2014. More information about civicside is found here.

  —Donations/Gifts: This type of fundraising includes cash, materials and non-financial donations. Cash gifts are good for fundraisers who are seeking funds to support operations and future projects. Materials donations can help significant defray project costs. Non-financial donations include the contribution of people's time or in-kind services.

- Seasonal Fundraising Events: Many fundraising activities are seasonal. A properly timed fundraiser can make the event much easier if you are supplying someone with something that they would be buying anyway (e.g., lemonade sales or a car wash in summer, or candy sales before Valentine's Day).

3. GRANTS

Grants are funding opportunities provided by non-profit organizations, government agencies, cultural or educational institutions, corporations, and foundations based upon the submittal of a written proposal. If you're new to this type of funding, it is important to set realistic expectations. It is common for grant-giving organizations to be inundated with requests, but only projects with the best and most organized proposals are awarded funding.

- Local, regional and state funds

Government grants cover a wide range of areas, from the arts and education to community development and technology. A great way to identify and apply for federal funding is through a national clearinghouse of grants from numerous public agencies. For state and local grants, a search of agency websites can

be useful. It's important to note that government funders are typically the least flexible (i.e., your services must be an exact fit with the stated needs) and often require the ability to closely track and report services and expenditures. LCG can help you determine the availability of and your eligibility for specific grant sources, and may potentially even serve as a partner in applying for certain grants.

• Foundations

Philanthropic funding is an important part of fundraising, particularly as it relates to funding specific programs, events or capital campaigns. There are many national, regional and local foundations of all sizes, both private and public, that offer grant opportunities if your project goals match their own mission and goals. Foundations respond best when they see evidence of community support for your cause or project.

- Corporate Foundations: Also called company-sponsored foundations, these types of entities receive grantmaking funds primarily from their parent profit-making companies, although they are legally separate entities and sometimes they have their own endowment. According to the Council on Foundations, there are more than 2,000 corporate foundations in the U.S., with total corporate giving totaling more than $12 billion annually.

- Family/Independent Foundations: Family foundations are those whose funds are derived from members of a single family, and they range in asset size from a few hundred thousand dollars to more than $1 billion. Most family foundations are run by family members who serve as trustees or directors on a voluntary basis. Family foundations are an important potential source of project funding because they make up over half of all private foundations, or 40,456 out of approximately 73,764 foundations (according to the Foundation Center, 2011).

- Community Foundations: Community foundations receive support from the public but provide grants like private foundations do. Their grants tend to support the needs of the geographic region in which they are located. Lafayette is fortunate to have access to a well established regional foundation, the Community Foundation of Acadiana (CFA), whose primary service area includes Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion parishes. The Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit, public charity, focused on connecting donors to community needs and opportunities and positively impacting our communities. CFA responds to local needs and opportunities and acts as a catalyst, a convener, and a broker in meeting emergencies and initiating projects under its broad charitable mandate. Click here for more information about CFA.

03 DIY NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECTS

PROJECT LIST

For ease of navigation, the twenty projects contained in this Toolkit have been grouped under three major headings or goals. accomplish specific goals of your group.

Natural Features & Conservation

1. USE NATIVE PLANTS FOR HABITAT & BIODIVERSITY
2. PLANT AND CARE FOR TREES
3. CLEAN THE STREETS & BEAUTIFY THE STREETSCAPE
4. INSTALL RAIN GARDENS
5. INSTALL RAIN BARRELS
6. DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD SUSTAINABILITY ASSET INVENTORY
7. HOLD A NEIGHBORHOOD ENERGY CHALLENGE

Neighborhood Character

8. RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION & WEATHERIZATION
9. CREATE PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS OR EXHIBITS
10. CREATE A GATEWAY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
11. PAINT INTERSECTIONS OR BUILDING MURALS
12. FOSTER ACTIVITY WITH A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY OR PUBLIC FURNITURE
13. INSTALL A PARKLET

The purpose of categorizing the projects in this way is to more easily help you determine which projects will best

Community Connection

14. HOST A BETTER BLOCK OR BLOCK PARTY
15. START A BIKE SHARE OR BIKE HUB – INSTALL A BIKE PARKING RACK
16. ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY GARDEN OR LOCAL FOOD INSTALLATION
17. START OR ENHANCE A NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM – CPTED
18. CONDUCT A WALKABILITY AUDIT FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
19. DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOUR & MARKET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
20. ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY TOOL LIBRARY

PROJECT MATRIX

Each of the projects included in this toolkit is related to goals, policies and actions contained in PlanLafayette. Actions recommende specific plan actions. Go to *A01. Related PlanLafayette Actions* for more detail about individual actions.

PROJECTS	PLANLAFAYETTE ACTIONS										
	2.6.1	2.12.2	3.3.4	3.3.6	3.5.1	3.5.3	3.12.4	3.14.4	4.3.6	4.5.2	4.5.6
A. NATURAL FEATURES & CONSERVATION											
Use Native Plants for Habitat & Biodiversity			✓	✓			✓				
Plant and Care For Trees			✓	✓			✓	✓			
Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape	✓		✓				✓	✓			
Install Rain Gardens			✓	✓			✓	✓			
Install Rain Barrels								✓			
Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory								✓			
Hold a Neighborhood Energy Challenge								✓			
B. NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER											
Residential Renovation & Weatherization					✓	✓					
Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
Create a Gateway in your Neighborhood	✓	✓									
Paint Intersections or Building Murals	✓										
Foster Activity with a Little Free Library or Public Furniture							✓				
Install a Parklet		✓		✓			✓	✓			
C. COMMUNITY CONNECTION											
Host a Better Block or Block Party				✓							
Start a Bike Share or Bike Hub – Install a Bike Parking Rack								✓			
Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation		✓					✓	✓			✓
Start or Enhance a Neighborhood Safety Program – CPTED							✓				
Conduct a Walkability Audit for your neighborhood											
Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood									✓	✓	
Establish a Community Tool Library					✓	✓					

ed in the plan provide the rationale for the neighborhood projects. The following matrix indicates how projects are related to

4.6.3	6.11.2	6..11.2	6.14.2	7.3.3	7.6.3	7.8.2	8.7.1	8.18.2	9.3.1	9.4.2	9.5.4	9.8.2	9.8.3	10.2.1	10.2.3	10.2.4
				✓								✓	✓		✓	✓
				✓								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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							✓			✓						
	✓	✓	✓													

USING NATIVE PLANTS

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Louisiana Iris]

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Echinacea Purpurea or Purple Coneflower at EarthShare Gardens]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/

1. DESIGN
2. SELECT RIGHT PLAN/RIGHT PLACE
3. PLANT
4. DEVELOP A MAINTENANCE PLAN
5. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

/EXAMPLES/

- Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
- Vermillionville Native Plant Garden
- Lafayette Middle School

/RELATED PROJECTS/

PROJECT #2 Plant and Care for Trees
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT #4 Install Rain Gardens or Bioswales
PROJECT #5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT #16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/

ACTIONS: 3.3.4, 3.3.6, 3.12.4, 7.3.3, 9.8.2, 9.8.3, 10.2.3, 10.2.4

USE NATIVE PLANTS FOR HABITAT OR BIODIVERSITY

/ WHAT IS IT /

The use of native plants in residential and commercial gardens is an economical and environmentally friendly way to beautify Lafayette. Native plants are more hardy and less susceptible to pests, disease and weather extremes. Their care requires fewer resources, money and time, while also providing beneficial habitat to bees, birds and insects. Because native plants are adapted to our local soil and climate, fewer pesticides or chemical fertilizers are needed, which in turn helps our bayous and waterways stay healthy.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental

- Beautifies the landscape
- Provides habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Conserves water and filters storm water
- Improves air quality through increased carbon sequestration

Social

- Creates a more welcoming neighborhood environment
- Reduces stress and improves public health
- Managed landscapes can reduce the risk of crime (CPTED)

Economic

- Fewer funds spent on maintenance, fertilizer, pesticides, replanting
- Lower cost of importing and maintaining non-native plants

/ RESOURCES /

- A Guide to Louisiana Friendly Landscaping by LSU AgCenter
- LSU AgCenter Helpdesk: 337-291-7099
- Louisiana Native Plant Society
- Bayou Vermilion Preservation Alliance

[Credit: Rachel Adams - Rabbit Eye Blueberry Bush is a great food-producing native plant]

[Credit: Kenneth Robertson - Butterfly Milkweed]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. DESIGN

Native plants can be incorporated into any home, school or workplace landscape very easily. Consider your optimal space, water and light before planting, as well as your budget. The Louisiana Native Plant Society has a list of regional resources as well as the Lafayette Garden Club. The USDA publishes fact sheets on over 1,000 varieties of native plants. A short list of plants recommended by Bill Fontenot, the "Nature Dude", includes: indian pink (Spigelia marilandica), Louisiana phlox (Phlox divarcata 'Louisiana'), copper iris (Iris fulva), and black-eyed susan (Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldstrum'). Others are coneflower, irises, butterfly milkweed, salvias, rabbiteye blueberry bush.

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STEP 2. SELECT RIGHT PLANT/RIGHT PLACE

Consider the amount of sunlight or shade when choosing your native plants. A list of locally adapted native plants can be found in several locations on the LSU AgCenter website.

STEP 3. PLANT

Native plant gardens are best when installed in fall or early spring, so plants can develop a root system before the summer heat. The garden bed should be prepped with compost and tilled appropriately. Leaf mulch can be added for weed control. Free compost is available from the Lafayette Consolidated Government. For more information, call 337-291-8529.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Armour Villa Neighborhood
[Bronxville, New York]

The opportunity to create a native plant garden came up with a plot of overgrown land on the corner of Bronxville Rd and Vera Rd. The project evolved under the direction of Kim Eierman, owner of a landscape consulting firm and a board member of the Armour Villa Neighborhood Association. Located at the entrance of the neighborhood, the garden enhances the experience of entering the neighborhood and for residents to stroll. The project was made possible with the Master Garderners volunteering as well as student volunteers from Cornell Univeristy.

USING NATIVE PLANTS

STEP 4. DEVELOP A MAINTENANCE PLAN

While plants are still young, consider a watering schedule and proximity to your home or school. Native plants need minimal care after the plants have been established.

STEP 5. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

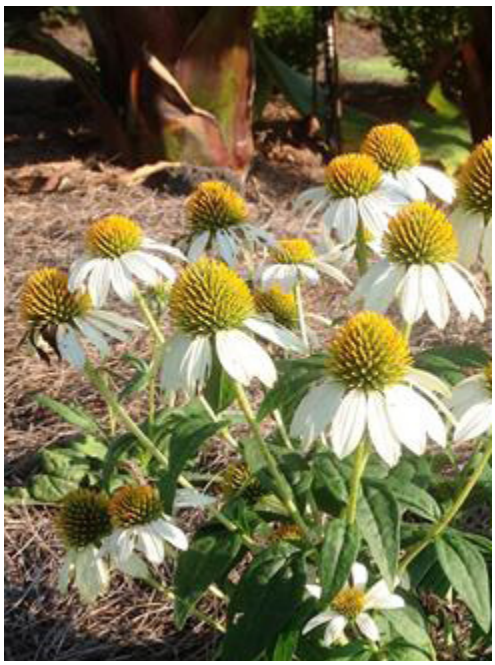
Seasonal maintenance includes thinning perennials and cutting back shrubs over the years. Save bagged leaves in your neighborhood for mulching your garden. Waste material can be bagged in brown paper bags and put at your curb for pickup and composting at LCG's compost facility.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

LSU Hilltop Arboretum
[Baton Rouge, LA]

Comprising 14 beautiful acres in Baton Rouge, the Hilltop Arboretum showcases an extensive collection of Louisiana native trees and shrubs. The property is located on Highland Road south of the LSU campus.

Donated by Mr. Emory Smith to LSU in 1981, the property is under the management of the Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture and remains a model of the natural landscape and outdoor laboratory to promote learning about natural systems, plants, and landscape design.



[Source: LSU AgCenter- White Coneflower]

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Native Plant Flower Bed
[University of Louisiana at Lafayette Campus]

In 2012, the Lafayette Garden Club partnered with the Girl Scouts of Acadiana to plant a native plant patch on the UL bike path on Cajundome Boulevard. The Scouts planted native Columbine, Coreopsis sunray, Gaillardia Arizonasun, Gaillardia Arizona red, Rudbekia goldstrum and Verbascum southern charm. Ride by and check it out!

[Source: LSU AgCenter- Amistad Salvia]

2 PLANT & CARE

[Tree planting in Lafayette, LA]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1.THE GIVING TREE
2. CONSULT
3. LOCATE
4. PLAN TO PLANT
5. SPRING OR FALL
6. DIG PLANT
7. WATER & MULCH
8. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

/EXAMPLES/
- Northeast Gateway
- Twelfth Street in McComb-Veazey
- Community ReLeaf

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 1 Use Native Plants for Habitat or Biodiversity
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT # 4 Install Rain Gardens or Bioswales
PROJECT # 5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.3.4, 3.3.6, 3.12.4, 3.14.4, 7.3.3, 9.8.2, 9.8.3, 10.2.1, 10.2.3, 10.2.4

PLANT AND CARE FOR TREES

/ WHAT IS IT /
Trees are essential to all life. They produce oxygen, store carbon, clean the soil, slow storm water runoff and fight erosion, reduce noise and air pollution, provide shade, cool the air, and do so much more! When correctly planted, trees will grow twice as fast and live longer than poorly planted trees. But planting is only the initial step. Basic knowledge of proper tree care is necessary to keep trees healthy.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Beautifies the landscape
- Provides habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Conserves water and filters storm water
- Improves air quality through carbon sequestration

Social
- Creates a more welcoming neighborhood environment
- Reduces noise and visual pollution
- Reduces stress and improves public health

Economic
- Generates energy savings
- Lowers utility bills
- Can increase property values

/ RESOURCES /
- Lafayette Tree Planting Guide by Cecilia Gayle [A03. Lafayette Recommended Tree Species Guide]
- Native Tree Planting Guide by LSU AgCenter
- Trees Acadiana
- Proper Tree Planting Guide by LSU AgCenter

2 PLANT & CARE

[Catherine Schoeffler Comeaux offers advice to UL Soul Camp volunteers on mulching trees]

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Parkway Partners
[New Orleans, LA]

Parkway Partners is a non-profit organization which empowers residents to improve quality of life through the preservation, maintenance and beautification of neutral grounds, green spaces, playgrounds, parks, community gardens and the urban forest in New Orleans. In the 30 years since it was founded, Parkway Parners has converted dozens of vacant lots across the city into community resources and gathering places. There are 34 active urban gardens, including community gardens, urban farms and orchards.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. THE GIVING TREE

Trees are unconditional givers in our community. Trees provide beauty, shade, while cleaning the air and absorbing storm water which cleans water and reduces flooding. Increasing our city-wide tree cover has the potential to lower our urban heat index in the summer months. Besides providing habitat and food for native species, trees also provide a resting place for migrating birds throughout the year.

STEP 2. CONSULT

Several local organizations can be of assistance when looking for information about planting trees. TreesAcadiana provides expert advice on planting, selection and maintenance and can often offer free tree saplings. Other great resources for information are: the LSU AgCenter, Alliance for Community Trees, and the Louisiana Urban Forestry Council. For video tutorials on tree planting, visit Trees for Houston.

STEP 3. LOCATE

- Public Right of Way- If you would like to plant a tree in front of your home, and are curious if it is in the public right of way, please call the Public Works Department at 291- 8504.

- If you would like to plant a tree on your private property or business, please consult the Tree Guide A03. Lafayette Recommended Tree Species Guide prepared by LCG to advise you in your species selection. The Guide addresses tree heights (eg. avoiding power lines) and root spread to prevent damage to infrastructure. If you are interested in installing a Fruit Tree Orchard at home or in your neighborhood, consider this publication on Home Fruit Orchards and consider contacting Trees Acadiana for advice and technical support. Fruit trees are an inexpensive and great way to increase healthy eating.

- Native trees will thrive in south Louisiana climate and weather. For a list of suggested tree species, please consult the LSU AgCenter publication.

[Tree planting in Lafayette, LA]

[Source: LSUAgCenter- Banana Tree]

[Source: L Greens- Detroit 2020]

STEP 4. PLAN TO PLANT

Evaluate the site for the mature tree size, light and soil requirements. Consider the height, width and root spread of the tree before planting.

STEP 5. SPRING OR FALL

The prime period to plant trees in Louisiana runs from November through February.

STEP 6. DIG PLANT

- Remember to call ONE Call before you dig: 1-800-272-3020!
- The width and depth of the hole should be two times the size of the rootball. A common mistake is to plant a tree too deep.
- Do not plant the root crown, the topmost root of the trunk, below the surface of the soil line. If the rootball is compacted and roots are growing in a circle due to the nursery pot, loosen or snip roots to encourage healthy root establishment.

STEP 7. WATER & MULCH

A newly planted tree's primary need is water. Creating a shallow levee around each tree will allow for water to slowly absorb into the soil. Mulch should not touch the tree bark, which can lead to disease and death of the tree.

STEP 8. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

As your tree grows, it will become more drought resistant but maintaining healthy soils and a sound branch structure will require more attention. Aerate the soil and examine the health of tree branches at least once a year. Pruning must be done properly, in consultation with an arborist. Incorrectly performed pruning can damage a tree and endanger people. Never allow anyone to "top" a tree to reduce its height!

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

MillionTreesNYC
[New York]

MTNYC is a public-private program that aims to plant and care for one million trees throughout five boroughs in New York City to increase the urban forest by 20% over the next decade. The trees will be planted on public, private and commerical land. The program encourages all New Yorkers to get involved, whether planting trees in residential yards, participating in volunteer group plantings in parks and other open spaces, or participating in tree pruning, education, and advocacy programs.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Louisiana Avenue Median
[Lafayette, LA]

TreesAcadiana and the Northeast Gateway Coterie planted 80-100 native trees and more than 300 native shrubs and grasses along Louisiana Avenue extension north of Interstate 10 to beautify and naturalize the roadscape. The trees were donated by an Apache Corporation Tree Grant and the shrubs and grasses by TreesAcadiana, who coordinated the volunteers effort. Thank you!

3 NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

[# yardwork, UL and Project Frontyard Clean-up in 2014 on Congress across from Cajun Field]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/

1. FORM CLEAN + GREEN COMMITTEE
2. LOCATE
3. SCHEDULE EVENT
4. GET THE WORD OUT
5. PROGRAM /DAY OF EVENT
6. ORGANIZE VOLUNTEERS
7. PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS
8. DISPOSE OF TRASH
9. EMBRACE SPACE

/EXAMPLES/

- #Yardwork
- "It's public art in Lafayette"

/RELATED PROJECTS/ PROJECT

PROJECT # 1 Use Native Plants for Habitat or Biodiversity
PROJECT # 4 Install Rain Gardens or Bioswales
PROJECT # 9 Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits
PROJECT # 11 Paint Intersections or Building Murals
PROJECT # 13 Install a Parklet

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/

ACTIONS: 2.6.1, 3.3.4, 3.3.6, 3.12.4, 3.14.4, 6.14.2

CLEAN THE STREETS & BEAUTIFY THE STREETSCAPE

/ WHAT IS IT /

Litter-free streets can have a tremendous impact on image a city projects to the world and to itself. In Lafayette, we are on a long-term mission to beautify every inch of the city and "clean up our act." You can be a part of this effort too! Project Front Yard is a parishwide and regional initiative which brings together government, business, education, and the media to address what our community looks like. Initiatives under Project Front Yard include revitalization of gateways, improved streetscapes, litter removal and prevention, public art, river cleanup, and more. Visit the Project Front Yard website for information or contact the Project Front Yard Team at 337- 291-8306 for information on creative initiatives in your neighborhood.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental

- Removes waste that pollutes the environment
- Reduces visual clutter

Social

- Improves quality of the public spaces
- Creates a sense of community pride and identity
- Nurtures relationships among neighbors
- Builds a stronger community

Economic

- Generates positive publicity and tourism
- Attracts business investment
- Increases property values

/ RESOURCES /

- Project Front Yard Get Involved
- Keep Lafayette Beautiful
- How to Organize a Neighborhood Cleanup
- Scenic Lafayette

The Keep Lafayette Beautiful booth at the AHBA show- Cajundome, 2011]

[UL Students participating in a neighbborhood clean-up]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. FORM A CLEAN + GREEN COMMITTEE

Organizing a neighborhood clean-up requires teamwork and planning. Establish a team of committed and available folks to help make the event a success. Consider these factors: (1) project location; (2) day and time of event; (3) appointment of a Block Captain or area supervisor if your clean-up covers a large space; (4) supplies needed, including Trash Bags, Gloves, Tools, Orange Vests, Water, and Snacks; and (5) volunteers.

STEP 2. LOCATE

Identify and map or list those problem locations that could be targeted for the clean-up. If the clean-up is on private property, contact the owner for permission to access their property.

STEP 3. SCHEDULE EVENT

Weekends are typically the best time for volunteer availability. Schedule a month or two in advance for greatest success.

STEP 4. GET THE WORD OUT

Call your neighbors! Social media is great, but do not underestimate the power of a personal phone call when seeking volunteers. Involve local businesses and organizations in your neighborhood.

STEP 5. PROGRAM DAY OF EVENT

For greatest success, the event should be programmed in detail from start to finish. Consider a home base pop-up tent for volunteers to sign-in. Group leaders should be ready to go and train volunteers on safety and trash disposal / pick-up sites.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Keep Louisiana Beautiful #LitterGram
[Statewide]

Keep Louisiana Beautiful is a state anti-litter and community improvement organization focused on education, enforcement, awareness and cleanups. The #LitterGram campaign encourages people who find litter to take a picture, share it on social media and then pick up the litter and dispose of it or recycle it.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Anacostia Watershed Society
[Bladensburg,MD]

The Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) routinely organizes volunteers to help clean trash from neighborhoods, parks, streambeds, and riverbanks throughout the Anacostia Watershed. These events not only help keep pollution problems in check, they provide an opportunity for kids and adults to learn how water connects the Anacostia River and its streams to storm drains, streets, highways, homes, parking lots and workplaces. Between 1989 and 2009, AWS volunteers removed more than 900 tons of trash from the Anacostia River and its tributary creeks and streams.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

SOUL Camp
[University of Louisiana Lafayette]

UL's SOUL Camp is a unique experiential transition program that supplements New Student Orientation at the university. Every year, SOUL Camp members assist with neighborhood clean-ups throughout Lafayette, as well as participating in Project Front Yard seasonal clean-ups. Join a Krewe!"

[Lafayette couple doing their part cleaning the city during #Yardwork effort]

STEP 6. ORGANIZE VOLUNTEERS

To make the day a success, find tasks for everyone and include a sign-in sheet with contact information.

STEP 7. PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS

Volunteers should at a minimum be provided with water. Consider snacks such as fruit and granola bars to keep the group momentum going. Picking up litter is hard work!

STEP 8. DISPOSE OF TRASH

Call Republic Services or Lafayette Consolidated Government to assist with trash disposal. Also, neighbors with access to trailers can collect trash at multiple locations and haul to one major pick-up site. Please consult the Lafayette Pride Guide which details the proper way to dispose of various types of trash.

STEP 9. EMBRACE A SPACE

Groups can register a location in the Embrace a Space Program, formerly "Adopt a Road," in which they commit to maintaining a space several times a year. Call Recycling Specialist at 337-291-5637. The Environmental Quality Division provides litter bags, gloves, safety vests and safety signs to each group when they are out cleaning their stretch of road. For more information on how to properly dispose of items such as household hazardous waste, appliances, large waste items, used oil, or any other items please contact the Environmental Quality Division at 337-291-8529 or 337-291-5637.

[UL Soul Camp helps to keep Lafayette clean and full of pride]

4 INSTALL RAIN GARDENS

[Source: LSU AgCenter]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. LOCATE
2. RIGHT-SIZE
3. AMEND
4. DESIGN
5. PLANT
6. MAINTENANCE

/EXAMPLES/
- Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
- Vermilionville Native Plant Garden
- Lafayette Middle School
- LCG's Rain Garden at Dugas Road Compost Racility

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 1 Use Native Plants for Habitat or Biodiversity
PROJECT # 5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT #6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.3.4, 3.3.6, 3.12.4, 3.14.4, 7.3.3, 9.8.2

INSTALL RAIN GARDENS OR BIOSWALES

/ WHAT IS IT /

Louisiana has an intimate connection to water. Rain gardens are a creative way to express that connection by merging beauty and function. Rain gardens trap and retain storm water, decrease flooding, and beautify our city. The expansion of paved surfaces in our cities and towns creates "storm water superhighways" which make it easier for harmful chemicals to drain into our bayous and waterways. Local watershed stewards, the Bayou Vermilion Preservation Alliance and the Bayou Vermilion District provide great resources on their websites. Review Stormwater and Your Rain Garden on the LSU AgCenter's website for help in estimating the size of your rain garden.

(Note: Consult a drainage expert if you are trying to address serious drainage problems. Rain gardens will not solve those caused by clay hardpan soil.)

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental
- Beautifies landscape
- Provides habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Conserves water and filters stormwater
- Improves air quality through increased carbon sequestration

Social
- Creates a more welcoming neighborhood environment
- Reduces stress and improves public health
- Managed landscapes can reduce the risk of crime (CPTED)

Economic
- Generates savings on maintenance, fertilizer, pesticides, replanting
- Lowers risk of flooding and property damage

/ RESOURCES /

- A Guide to Louisiana Friendly Landscaping by LSU AgCenter
- LSU AgCenter Helpdesk: 337-291-7099
- The Bayou Vermilion Preservation Alliance
- Lafayette Pride Guide
- Bayou Vermilion District

4 INSTALL RAIN GARDENS

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Parking Lot Rain Garden
[Vermillionville, Lafayette]

The Vermillionville 10,000 square foot rain garden filters parking lot runoff through a combination of native wetland plants that quickly soak up the parking lot's runoff and retains it in a pond. Vermillionville also uses 3 separate types of pervious pavement on site.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Village of Niles Community Rain Garden
[Niles, IL]

Situated on a vacant site, the Rain Garden was completed in 2009. The project is supported by donations, local community organizations and a group of volunteers. It is estimated to help replenish 5.5 million liters of water each year. Native plants were selected for their tolerance to local conditions.

/ HOW TO DO IT

STEP 1. LOCATE

Rain gardens are optimal for low spots in your yard, but can also be created by channeling water from your roof into the garden. First, identify the runoff sources at your home or business, like roofs, driveways and parking lots. Next, locate the runoff destination, such as storm drains, streets or ditches. An ideal location for a rain garden would be a natural or man-made shallow depression between these two sources. Rain gardens should be located at least 10 feet away from slab foundations, homes and trees. Remember, the garden will collect and drain water, so do not design one close to your home. And remember to call ONE Call before you dig: 1-800-272-3020!

If you would like to install a rain garden on public property for a community project, please call the Lafayette Comprehensive Planning Office, at 337-291-7193, to verify ownership and sign a maintenance agreement.

STEP 2. RIGHT-SIZE

Rain gardens can be large or small and are determined by estimating the amount of impervious surfaces on your property, such as your driveway and roof. Review Stormwater and Your Rain Garden on the LSU AgCenter's website for help in estimating the size of your rain garden. A good shortcut estimate is to combine the total surface area in square feet and divide by 20. The recommended depth of the garden is 4-6 inches. Use the removed soil to create a berm, or retaining wall, on one side of the garden.

STEP 3. AMEND

Existing soil should be amended with compost and sand before planting. Use a woody mulch after the garden is planted.

[Source: City of Portand, Oregon]

STEP 4. DESIGN

Design with slopes and varying degrees of water in mind. You will need a combination of plants that can handle heavy water in the center, drier conditions on the edges, and varying amounts of water in the middle.

STEP 5. PLANT

Use wetland plants and native plants. Container grown plants are best to use when establishing a new garden.

STEP 6. MAINTAIN

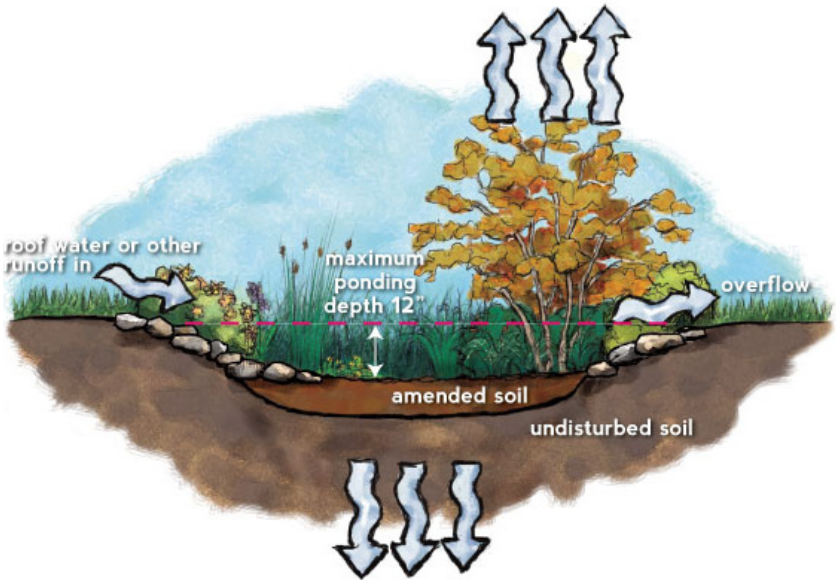
Mulch annually and observe water holding capacity to ensure standing water doesn't remain over a day.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Pilot Rain Garden

[Gentilly, New Orleans, LA]

The New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) completed a demonstraition rain garden project at 5302 Wildair Drive in the Filmore neighborhood in Gentilly. The project is designed to collect, temporarily store, and clean up to 500 gallons of rainwater. This is the first project connected to the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan. Funding for the project was provide by NORA through a HUD Neighborhood Initiatives Grant. The Filmore Gardens Neighborhood Association serves as the community partner to help maintain the garden.



[Rain Gardens: How they work. Source: East Multonmah soil & water conservation district]

[Small contained rain garden. Source: inhabitat.com-Melborne, Australia]

[Vermilionville Rain Garden]

5 INSTALL RAIN BARRELS

[Comeaux High School Rain Barrel]

[Source: Live Green Howard- children painting rain barrels for their VBS service project]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/

1. RESEARCH
2. PROCURE
3. OBSERVE
4. PREPARE
5. BUILD
6. USE

/EXAMPLES/

- LUS/LCG Rain Barrel Program

/RELATED PROJECTS/

PROJECT #7 Hold a Neighborhood Energy Challenge
PROJECT # 8 Residential Renovation & Weatherization
PROJECT # 9 Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits
PROJECT # 16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/

ACTIONS: 3.3.4, 3.14.4, 7.3.3, 7.6.3, 9.8.2

INSTALL RAIN BARRELS

/ WHAT IS IT /

Rain barrels are collection containers to capture and store rain water (usually from rooftops) for later use. Although the water collected is not suitable for drinking, it can be used to water lawns, wash cars, flush toilets, and other uses. Rain barrels keep polluted runoff water from entering storm drains or streams nearby. Rain barrels are usually placed outside under the roof or gutter downspouts. The typical size for a home ranges between 50 to 75 gallons.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental

- Protects the bayou
- Reuses a valuable natural resource
- Cleans rainwater of inorganic ions and fluoride compounds that over time can harm plant roots

Social

- Keeps stormwater that falls on your property within your property
- During dry seasons, the collected rainwater can be used to continue nourishing your garden
- Projects community model role
- Projects community pride

Economic

- Reduces water bill (saves money on water for your garden/yard)

/ RESOURCES /

- LUS website for ordering and installing rain barrels
- Stormwater Pollution

[Source: Elkhart River Restoration Association Inc. - 2012 Rain Barrel Auction]

[Saint Thomas More High School Rain Barrel]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. RESEARCH

Storm water runoff carries environmental contaminants, such as oil, litter, and yard chemicals directly into the bayous. Rain barrels can hold water to be reused in your garden, while also slowing down water so that it soaks into the ground before moving to the bayou. Bayou Vermilion District and Bayou Vermilion Preservation Alliance are encouraging residents to use rain barrels to minimize the volume of storm water emptying into the bayou during rain events. Additional information can be found in the LSU AgCenter publication on using rain gardens to protect surface waters and wetlands.

STEP 2. PROCURE

The Lafayette Utilities System and the Lafayette Consolidated Government provide rain barrels at a discounted price every year in March. See their installation guide for tips. Call 337-291-8280 or email rainbarrel@lus.org.

STEP 3. OBSERVE

Monitor water flow from your roof during a rainfall. To collect the most water, rain barrels should be placed at a gutter downspout. If gutters are not on your house, find a low point in the roof where water flows and place your barrel there. Make sure the area around your barrel is a permeable surface. Water will overflow from the barrel and need to soak into the surrounding ground surface.

STEP 4. PREPARE

Clean your roof and gutter to keep the barrel free of debris. The downspout of the gutter should be altered with a flexible spout and end only several inches above the rain barrel screen. Read more on gutter alterations in an online Rain Barrel Guide.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Collinwood Painted Rain Barrel Project [Cleveland OH]

The idea started back in 2011 when artist Linda Wood painted her rain barrel as it began showing patches of algae. Ms. Wood received a grant to comissioned local artists to paint rain barrels for auction. The vision is to incentivize the practice of rain harvesting, enhance the aesthetics of the neighborhood, and provide opportunities for local artist to expose their work.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Vermilionville Vegetable Garden Irrigation
[Lafayette, LA]

The Vermillionville demonstration vegetable garden is irrigated via rain barrels hooked up to the roof.

5 INSTALL RAIN BARRELS

STEP 5. BUILD

Use cinder blocks or bricks to raise the barrel above level ground. Raising the barrel is necessary to create the water pressure needed to flow from the faucet. Ensure that the lid is on securely and the screen is in place. The screen will prevent mosquitos from laying eggs, however other options are mosquito dunks which prevent larvae from hatching for 30 days.

STEP 6. USE

Water stored in your rain barrel should not be used for drinking, but for can be used for garden and landscape purposes. Plan to use the water within a week. A hose can be attached to the faucet of the barrel, however there is not enough pressure for a sprinkler.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

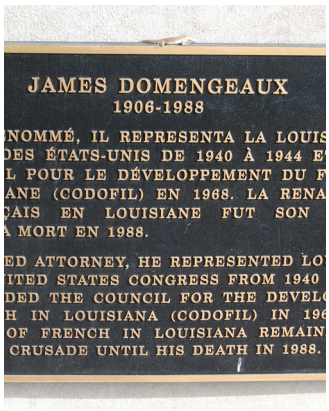
Cypress Cisterns
["Cajun Country," LA]

A variation of the rain barrel system, cypress cisterns can be used to collect rain water. A downspout attaches to a gutter and directs rainwater into the barrel. Cisterns were commonly used in Louisiana at one point to catch and store the plenetiful rain water. Today, this type of storage system can be designed and built customized to your needs. You can build your own or order from particular manufacturers (e.g., Southern Cisterns in St. Martin Parish).

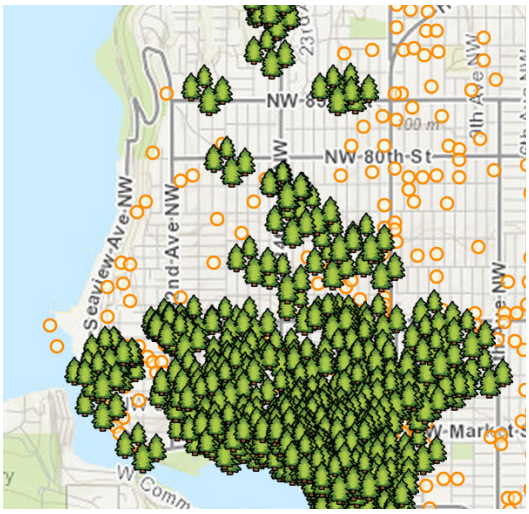
[Teurlings High School Rain Barrel]

[Local high schools participate in public art contest using rain barrels- Temporary display at City Hall]

6 DEVELOP ASSET INVENTORY



[A photographic inventory of community assets was part of PlanLafayette's Community Assessment]



[Source: David Folweiler -2014 by in Groundswell NW]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. COORDINATE + CONNECT
2. COLLECT
3. ANALYZE
4. DISCERN
5. COMMUNICATE + CELEBRATE

/EXAMPLES/
- PlanLafayette Community Assessment

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 7 Hold a Neighborhood Energy Challenge
PROJECT # 15 Start a Bike Library or Bike Hub- Install a Bike Parking Rack
PROJECT # 17 Start or Enhance a Neighborhood Safety Program- Applying Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED]
PROJECT # 18 Conduct a Walkability Audit for Your Neighborhood
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.14.4, 7.3.3, 7.6.3, 7.8.2

DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD SUSTAINABILITY ASSET INVENTORY

/ WHAT IS IT /
Neighborhood assets can be people, places, businesses, natural features, cultural resources, and organizations. An asset inventory is a tool to understand and improve the quality of life for a community. Understanding a community's strengths, unique characteristics can lend themselves to increasing a neighborhood's capacity for change.

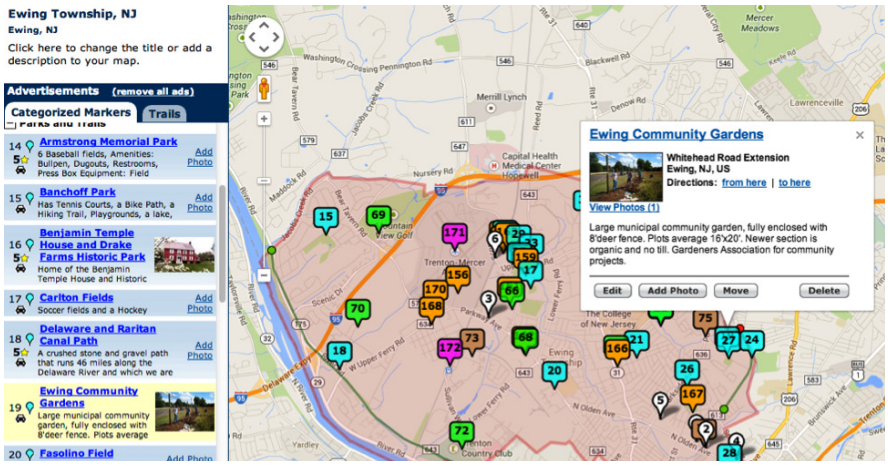
/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Provides a better understanding of the value of natural and built features within the neighborhood
- Helps preserve existing natural and built resources, from habitats and open space, to historic buildings

Social
- Improves public image of the neighborhood
- Reinforces neighborhood identity and self-image

Economic
- Can reduce unnecessary spending
- Creates opportunities for attracting new businesses, residents and visitors
- Helps prioritize needs and spending on projects

/ RESOURCES /
- Southwest Garden Neighborhood Asset Inventory (St. Louis, MO)
- PlanLafayette Community Assessment
- Invest in Neighborhoods, Inc.
- The Northeast Ohio Green Map
- Open Green Map Tool
- Open Plans Tool

6 DEVELOP ASSET INVENTORY



[Source: The College of New Jersey

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

New Orleans Open Green Map
[New Orleans, LA]

The New Orleans Open Green Map project was meant to create a more self-reliant community through opening pathways and establishing connections between place, community and nature. Community members charted their neighborhoods, employing local knowledge while simultaneously solidifying and building on that knowledge.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Southwest Garden Neighborhood
[St Louis, MO]

A group of graduate students at the St. Louis Univeristy's Urban Planning school conducted a neighborhood asset for Southwest Garden. The class took the opportunity to look at the neighborhood's assets in several components: physical assets, community assets, environmental assets, economic development and transportation. Click here to see the study report. This asset inventory could then be beneficial when applying for grants and planning development.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. COORDINATE + CONNECT

Determine what information your group wants to gather. Examples of assets include resident skills and specialties, citizen associations, businesses, government institutions, hospitals, recreation and educational facilities.

STEP 2. COLLECT

Organize a survey in person by going door to door, by phone, online, or by mailout. A sample survey can be found on the following website: A Guide to Capacity Inventories: Mobilizing the Community Skills of Local Residents. Consider using open data/mapping tools such as Open Green Map and Open Plans to facilitate data collection.

STEP 3. ANALYZE

Input findings into a database and compile survey results. The inventory does not stop after the data is entered. The data needs to be interpreted and analyzed and then can be used to produce community action items and goals.

STEP 4. DISCERN

The outcomes of an asset inventory can be used to mobilize a community towards:

- Galvanizing citizen support and action around critical issues
- Organizing catalyst projects
- Jobs and economic growth
- Marketing and promotion
- Building and rebuilding relationships, trust and "social capital"

STEP 5. COMMUNICATE + CELEBRATE

An asset inventory can be shared with the community through a public event, printed publication, online report, or social media. Share information and photos on Facebook or on your neighborhood website. Leverage the findings to take action towards achieving neighborhood goals.

7 ENERGY CHALLENGE

[Source: Baltimore Energy Challenge]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. MEET + GREET
2. MONITOR
3. TARGET
4. REDUCE
5. CELEBRATE

/EXAMPLES/
- Survival Insight
- LUS Meter Upgrade Program

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 8 Residential Renovation & Weatherization

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.14.4, 7.8.2, 9.8.2

HOLD A NEIGHBORHOOD ENERGY CHALLENGE

/ WHAT IS IT /

Competition has a way of moving people into action! Energy challenges are a great, fun way for the neighborhood to reduce energy use, save money, and track consumption. The challenge focuses on changing the neighborhood's behavior over a period of time, to save energy through demonstation activities, workshops, and meetings. We change our habits by becoming aware of how much energy we use.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental
- Promotes lower energy use
- Conserves raw materials
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions

Social
- Results in safer and more energy efficient homes
- Promotes community unity and stronger neighborhood relationships

Economic
- Lowers utility bills
- Can create green job opportunities and support local home repair industry

/ RESOURCES /

- Conneticut Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge
- Baltimore Energy Challenge

7 ENERGY CHALLENGE

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

City of New Orleans Benchmarking
[New Orleans, LA]

Local goverments are typically big energy consumers. They can also be challenged to become more energy efficient. Through a project funded by a grant from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the City of New Orleans benchmarked all municipal buildings for energy efficiency, including fire stations, police stations, libraries, and recreation centers. The goal was to demonstrate that the City's utility bills could be substantially lowered through energy efficiency measures. 92 city-owned buildings were benchmarked and 15 were audited.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. MEET + GREET

Knock, knock! Reach out to fellow neighbors to see who might be interested. Most folks are looking for ways to save and conserve money, and this is one easy way to begin to change habits.

STEP 2. MONITOR

Make a plan to track your current energy usage by looking at and recording your electric and gas bills. Conduct a home energy audit to locate places and appliances that are heavy energy users on allowing energy escape from your home. Example audits are the Houston guide and Green Home Guide. Lafayette Utilities System uses Smart Meters to track energy usage. Visit the LUS website for information on how to read your Smart Meter.

STEP 3. TARGET

Set goals and benchmarks:

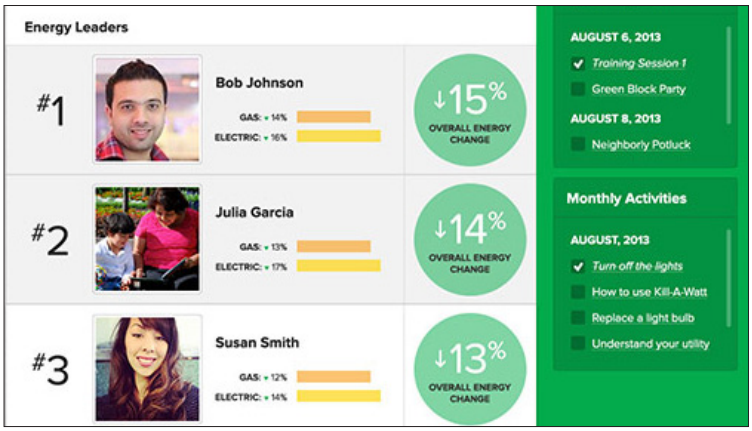
- What is the goal? (e.g., lower energy consumption by 5%, 10% or 15%)
- What is the time frame? (e.g, six months, a year)
- Make a commitment and sign a pledge
- Does your group want to/can offer incentives or prizes when goals are met?

STEP 4. REDUCE

Below are some tips for lowering your energy consumption:

- Weatherize your home
- Unplug your appliances when not in use
- Turn off lights
- Fix leaky faucets
- Use thermostat wisely; use less when not at home
- Use passive heating/cooling
- Get low-flow showerheads and toilets
- Use cold water when washing clothes

[Source: Benjamin Drummond- Lopez Community Land Trust]



[Source: Chicago Neighborhood Energy Challenge uses online tool to compare energy usage among neighbors]

STEP 5. CELEBRATE

Share your results with your neighborhood and public media. Chances are you will inspire others to curb their energy consumption by changing small daily habits.

[Source: Denver Energy Challenge]

[MN Renewable Energy Challenge (REC)]

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Chicago Neighborhood Energy Challenge

[Chicago, IL]

The Chicago Neighborhood Energy Challenge (CNEC) 's 6 month pilot competition allows seven participating buildings to track and compare energy savings from previous months as well as to neighbors. Each building has a designated "Green Leader" whose responsibility is to educate, assist participating residents and drive the message to become more sustainable. The project is sponsored by the city but requires the partipation of all residents within the qualified area.

8 RENOVATION & WEATHERIZATION

[Source: Habitat for Humanity- July 2014 16 high school students]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. REINVEST
2. RESEARCH
3. WEATHERIZE
4. PLAN AHEAD

/EXAMPLES/
- Remodeling and Replacement Cost vs Value Report
- 10 Ways To Go Green and Save Green

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT # 5 Install Rain Barrels
PROJECT # 11 Paint Intersections or Building Murals
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood
PROJECT # 20 Establish a Community Tool Library

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.5.1, 3.5.3

RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION & WEATHERIZATION

/ WHAT IS IT /
Our roads and buildings are the framework for what make our town attractive and welcoming. Updating homes and keeping yards well-managed add to the overall beauty of Lafayette. Residential renovation is a way to reinvest in the urban core, older homes and keep them habitable and functioning. Often, roofs, doors or windows need replacing, or the home can use a fresh paint job. Upkeep and maintenance provide longevity to the house and a marketable asset for the future. Perhaps most important, weatherization can help everyone, but particularly lower income families, limit the cost burden of utilities and therefore save money.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Lowers energy consumption associated with heating and cooling
- Reduces stress on the power grid through greater energy efficiency

Social
- Arms families against rising energy prices
- Strengthens community relationships

Economic
- Lowers utility bills associated with heating and cooling
- Saves families money and increases amount of income to spend on other necessities

/ RESOURCES /
- Rebuilding Together Acadiana: 337-291-9910
  - o Homeowner Application
- LCG Office of Community Development Neighborhood Pride
- Home Energy Audit
- Energy Saver 101: Home Cooling

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. REINVEST

Reinvesting keeps our city thriving and growing. Residential renovation and weatherization are easy ways to fix up your home. Even simple things like painting can give a home added life and value. Weatherization measures can save you money over time.

STEP 2. RESEARCH

Several local organizations assist homeowners with residential rehab funding as well as volunteer labor: LCG Department of Community Development provides a housing rehabilitation program for old homes owned by low-income citizens in Lafayette Parish. Click here for the application. To learn more visit their website or call (337) 291-8446 or Email: housingrehab@lafayettela.gov. Rebuilding Together Acadiana provides home repairs to low-income, elderly or disabled homeowners in Lafayette, Iberia, Vermilion and Acadia parishes. For more information on how to apply, contact the referral hotline at (337) 291-9910. Lafayette Habitat for Humanity is also a resource to gain renovation skills and "learn by doing" while volunteering. To volunteer with Habitat for Humanity call 261-5041.

STEP 3. WEATHERIZE

If you are working within your own budget, use these techniques for low-cost improvements that can also make your home more energy efficient.

- Low flow showerheads
- Weather stripping
- Attic insulation
- Duct testing and sealing
- Door replacements
- Caulking
- Window Replacement
- Painting Exterior
- Appliance Testing

STEP 4. PLAN AHEAD

Make a list of anticipated home improvements needs and estimate the cost. Create a budget for your project and a timeline. Visit www.building-cost.net to learn more about estimating renovation costs. Inquire about professional quotes if you don't plan to do the work yourself.

[Source: Energy.gov (photo by Dennis Schroeder). A weatherization worker drills holes to blow cellulose insulation in the interior walls of this home.]

/REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

LaHouse Cente
[Louisiana State University]

LSU AgCenter's LaHouse Center showcases research=based solutions and resources to increase residential comfort, durability, value, convenience, environmental quality, safety and better health with less energy, water, pollution, waste, damage and loss. The LaHouse project features state-of-the-art energy efficient appliances and building materials. Tours of the house are available!

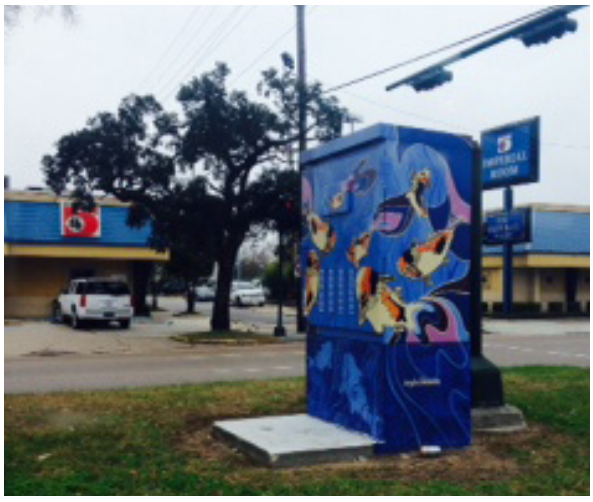
/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Rebuilding Together
[Nationwide Affiliates]

Rebuilding Together a national volunteer organization that revitalizes neighborhoods in partnership with the community by rehabilitating the houses of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and the disabled, so that they may continue to live independently in comfort and safety. Rebuilding Together strengthens the lives of our most vulnerable communities by providing low-income homeowners with critical home repairs, accessibility modifications and energy-efficient upgrades. Rebuilding Together's local affiliates and nearly 100,000 volunteers complete about 10,000 rebuild projects each year. Rebuilding Together's regional affiliate is Rebuilding Together Acadiana.

9 INSTALLATIONS OR EXHIBITS

[Ragin Cajun Pelican on the corner of Bertrand Dr. and Johnston St. Pelicans]



[Painted electric box in New Orleans]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. DEFINE
3. RESEARCH
4. CALL + SELECT
5. CONSENT
6. FUND
7. SUBMIT
8. PAY
9. CONTRACT
10. BUILD
11. CELEBRATE + MAINTAIN

/EXAMPLES/
- "Be the 'Y' in Lafayette"
- Murals, mosaics, lighting, etc.

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #3 (Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape)
PROJECT # 11 (Paint Intersections or Building Murals)
PROJECT #16 (Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation)

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 2.6.1, 2.12.2, 3.12.4, 4.6.3, 8.18.2

CREATE PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS OR EXHIBITS

/ WHAT IS IT /

Lafayette has a very rich and diverse art scene, with much room to grow. Public art is not just a story-telling tool to communicate the story of our unique culture — it opens the door to community expression, place-making and pride. Art can enliven a neighborhood and breathe new life into an underutilized vacant space. A few common examples of public art are murals, sculpture, fountains, mosaics, street lighting, and street furniture. The art can be temporary or permanent, and can use any medium.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental
- Beautifies the neighborhood's public spaces
- Can showcase aspects of important objects and historic places

Social
- Reinforces community identity and pride
- Can spur broader neighborhood revitalization efforts
- Employs, trains, and educates community artists, residents, and youth
- Publicizes the community's history and culture

Economic
- Improves and stabilizes neighborhood streetscapes to boost property values
- Results in commissions for local artists and work for installers

/ RESOURCES /

- Project Front Yard - Get Involved!
- Seattle's Public Road Artmap

[Parc Sans Souci - Be the Y! in Lafayette]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

If you have a vision of creating a public art project or exhibit, your first step is to form a working group by teaming up with folks who can help make it happen. Consider involving your neighbors, local artists, local businesses and the Acadiana Center for the Arts.

STEP 2. DEFINE

A critical step is to conceptualize the project - define the idea, create a work plan, timeline and budget. Consider these factors:

- Will the art be temporary or permanent?
- Who will create, design, install and maintain the art?
- Create a long-term plan (labor and funds) for maintaining the art. If the installation is temporary, make sure to have a timeline plan for removing the art.

STEP 3. RESEARCH

Public Art can come in two forms: art on public property or art on private property accessible to the public, either visually or accessible, or both. If the proposed project is on public property, before proceeding, don't forget to thoroughly research and gain an understanding of LCG's Public Art process required for public art projects. Look at precedents locally and in other communities. Some resources you can check out include:

- Recover Acadiana
- BR Walls of Baton Rouge, LA
- Seattle Public Art Walking Tours
- Tacoma-Pierce Public Art Map
- City of Chicago

STEP 4. CALL + SELECT

For private property the work group may decide to simply contact a local artist of their preference. It is often safe to create a Call for Artists in the community and have either the work group or the community select a favorite submission. Write a contract to guide both parties through the creation and installation of the work.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Before I Die
[New Orleans, LA]

This interactive public installation invites people to share their personal aspirations. This singular experiemntal project on an abandoned house has gained global attention with over 500 walls. The walls provides an opportunity for people to express as well as see expressions from others. The project is required to have a certificate of appropriateness posted at all times.

[Green Ball by Tom Newport]

9 INSTALLATIONS OR EXHIBITS

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

"Be the Y! in Lafayette"
[Parc Sans Souci, Lafayette]

"Be the Y! in Lafayette" is an interactive public art project located in Park Sans Souci. The installation consists of 6-foot-tall concrete letters spelling out LAFA ETTE and therefore invites people to stand in the gap and serve as the missing "Y." The artwork gives Lafayette its "postcard" feature: visitors are encouraged to take photographs of themselves and share them through the Internet with the hashtag "#YLafayette."

STEP 5. CONSENT

It is important to obtain preliminary approvals from LCG and the property owner (if not LCG) for any public art project.

- Contact the Planning, Zoning and Development Department, Comprehensive Plan Office, and make an appointment to discuss the guidelines and requirements to install the art.
- Establish ownership status. The geographical boundary for the area and the ownership of the property on which the art is to be installed must be established during the first meeting. If the property is publicly owned, there are differences in requirements between the state's (e.g., state roads) and LCG ownership.
- Register in the Contact Database. All neighborhoods, mandatory/voluntary homeowners associations, neighborhood association, or subdivisions requesting public art installations must be registered.

STEP 6. FUND

There are a number of ways to raise money. Most of them are described in detail in Section 2 of this Toolkit. They include donations, fundraising events, and grants. Some resources available include:

- Local Grants
- Decentralized Arts Funding
- LCG Arts and Culture Funding

STEP 7. SUBMIT

Develop an Installation Map and Work Order. Applicants shall identify the site where gateway identifiers will be installed and provide a final work order describing all sign content (color, font, graphics), shape, size (dimensions), and materials to the Comprehensive Plan Office for approval.

[Mauricio Robalino and TAM Education Program, Mauricio Robalino and Students: Mosaic panels]

STEP 8. PAY

An administration fee paid to LCG may be applicable depending on the scope of the project. Payment to Lafayette Consolidated Government Planning, Zoning and Development (PZD) must be made prior to installation.

STEP 9. CONTRACT

Any agreements required under LCG's Public Art process will be required in the public art is on public property. The artwork's maintenance must be guaranteed by executing a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement signed by the sponsoring organization and LCG.

Artwork will be assessed annually as a part of LCG's annual maintenance check and Public Art identifier inventory (conducted by Public Works Traffic Maintenance). Artwork that is considered "under-performing" including but not limited to signs that are chipped, faded, peeling, damaged, missing, worn, etc., may be removed by Lafayette Consolidated Government (and replaced by the sponsoring group).

STEP 10. BUILD

Basic issues to consider in the fabrication and installation phases of the artwork:

- Public Works Department may be able to advise.
- Artist Installs. If individual artist intends to install the artwork, a coordinated action plan will need to be established in STEP 6.

STEP 11. CELEBRATE + MAINTAIN

Celebrate the completion of the artwork by holding a ceremony with neighbors and local officials. Follow your maintenance schedule and ensure the sustainability of your effort to periodic fundraising or other means.

[Temporary La Maison's light installation - New Orleans, LA]

10 CREATE A GATEWAY

[Gateway to Tahoe Park Sacramento neighborhood]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. DEFINE
3. RESEARCH
4. CALL + SELECT
5. CONSENT
6. FUND
7. SUBMIT
8. PAY
9. CONTRACT
10. BUILD
11. CELEBRATE + MAINTAIN

/EXAMPLES/
- Street sign toppers, gateway art, arches, monument signs, pylon/pole signs
- Street furniture: benches, bike parking, bus stops, sculpture, mosaics
- Landscaping: planters, hedges, trees, water features

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 9 Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 2.6.1, 2.12.2

CREATE A GATEWAY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

/ WHAT IS IT /
Gateway identifiers are generally installed to demonstrate neighborhood unity, boundaries and community character. Gateways are shown to create a "sense of place" which extends itself to neighborhood ownership and pride. They can include art, landscape and other forms or streetscape, and commonly include signage. Signage may include the name of the neighborhood, the mandatory/voluntary homeowners association, neighborhood association, or subdivision requesting the gateway identifier. In an effort to maintain consistent and suitable standards for neighborhood gateway identifiers, all groups requesting signage shall adhere to these guidelines and work with the Comprehensive Plan Office to meet all guidelines prior to installation.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Beautifies public space

Social
- Bolsters community identity and solidarity
- Spurs neighborhood revitalization efforts
- Advertises the history and culture of the community
- Can improve safety - CPTED

Economic
- Can increase property values
- Generates commissions for local artists
- Enhances local tourism efforts

/ RESOURCES /
- Public Art Roadmap

[Source: Tony Adwards- Noho Gateway Los Angeles]

[Source: Paul Kieu - Pat Juneau and his son Andre created sculptures that will decorate several light posts at intersections in downtown Lafayette]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

If you are interested in a city or parish gateway at a large intersection or major arterial, please contact the Chief Development Officer. To build a neighborhood gateway, we recommend forming a planning team to see the project to fruition. Consider neighborhood organizations, leaders, churches, businesses. Once you have a small team of 4-5 committed individuals, begin to research project ideas. An identifier will need neighborhood buy in. If the gateway is on public property or right-of-way and identifies a neighborhood's name there is a process identified in the Neighborhood Planning Workbook. If it is public art please see Project #9.

STEP 2. DEFINE

At this point your team should begin to get your ideas on paper. Create a project idea, work plan, timeline and budget. Depending on the project, the process may differ.

STEP 3. RESEARCH

If your gateway project involves art, and the art work is not owned by a government agency, partner with a recognized entity to assume ownership of the public art and act as an umbrella organization for your project. Review applicable permitting and insurance requirements.

STEP 4. CALL + SELECT

Depending on the scope of the project, you may wish to procure the assistance of qualified professionals to help design and execute your project (e.g., landscape designer). If artwork is involved, LCG's Public Art process may be required. The planning team then reviews and selects its preferred submission. The team should consider writing a contract to guide both parties through the creation and installation of the work.

STEP 5. CONSENT

- Contact the Planning, Zoning and Development Department, Comprehensive Plan Office, and make an appointment to discuss the guidelines and requirements to install gateway identifiers.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

North Hollywood Gateway
[Los Angeles, CA]

In 2009 the Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles (CRA/LA) granted artist Peter Shire to create a new overhead street-span construction. The bright sculpture illuminates at night and decorated with characters who work behind the scenes in the movie industry. The project was erected to commemorate North Hollywood's 30th anniversary. The project was a very involved community process with the intention of bring a community together.

10 CREATE A GATEWAY

/REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Mid-City Neighborhood Gateways
[New Orleans]

Mid-City in New Orleans has created neighborhood gateways on Jefferson Davis Blvd. and near City Park. The Mid-City Neighborhood Organization, the civic group active in the neighborhood, was formed in 1990 by the merger of two civic associations: the Mid-City Improvement Association and the City Park Mid-City Improvement Association. The projects were completed consistent with the City Mid-City Neighborhood Rebuilding Plan, adopted in 2006.

- Establish ownership. The geographical boundary for the area and the ownership of the property on which the gateway identifier is to be installed must be established during the first meeting.
- Review staff will consider the quality, aesthetics, and safety of all proposed projects.
- Register in the Contact Database. All neighborhoods, mandatory/voluntary homeowners associations, neighborhood association, or subdivisions requesting gateway identifiers must be registered with the Comprehensive Plan office prior to approval.
- If your project requires neighborhood buy in work with the Comprehensive Plan office to meet the requirement outlined in the Neighborhood Planning Handbook.

STEP 6. FUND

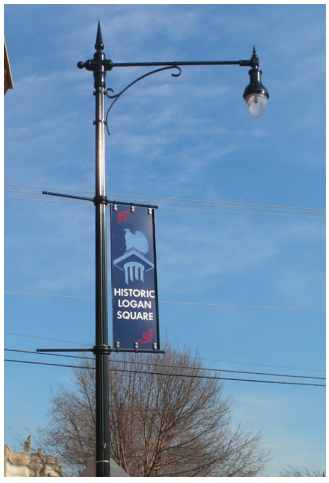
There are a number of ways to raise money. Most of them are described in detail in Section 2 of this Toolkit. Consider business sponsorships, state grants, crowdfunding, or contacting the Acadiana Center for the Arts.

STEP 7. SUBMIT

- Develop an Installation Map and Work Order. Applicants shall identify the site where gateway identifiers are to be installed and provide a final work order describing all sign content (color, font, graphics) shape, size (dimensions), and materials to the Comprehensive Plan Office for approval. If identifiers are sign toppers arrangements must be made to provide signs, with replacements to the Sign Shop of LCG.

- USING PUBLIC PROPERTY:
  - If the sign identifies a neighborhood, there will be a requirement for a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement that addresses maintenance, the project, neighborhood boundaries, and the project donation.
  - A Right of Way Permit will be required from the Public Works Department. This will verify that the identifier does not hinder safety in the area. The Right of Way Permit will likely include a line of sight survey provided by the Traffic Engineering Division of Public Works.

[Freetown Port-Rico Gateway Sign]



[Source: M. Jeremy Goldman]

- USING PRIVATE PROPERTY: A sign permit will be required. Please review the sign regulations on LCG's website and call the zoning section of the Planning, Zoning and Development Department for further information, fees, etc.

- USING A UTILITY EASEMENT or SERVITUDE: Call LUS' ONE Call to verify that construction can be done at the chosen location. There may be utility easements; call LUS for the process.

STEP 8. PAY

An applicable administration fee may be applicable. Payment to Lafayette Consolidated Government Planning, Zoning and Development (PZD) must be made prior to installation.

STEP 9. CONTRACT

The identifiers' maintenance and public ownership must be guaranteed by entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement signed by the sponsoring organization and LCG.

Gateway Identifiers will be assessed annually as a part of LCG's annual maintenance check and gateway identifier inventory (conducted by Public Works Traffic Maintenance). Gateway Identifiers that are considered "under-performing" including but not limited to signs that are chipped, faded, peeling, damaged, missing, worn, etc. may be removed by Lafayette Consolidated Government.

Removal may be requested by all neighborhoods, mandatory/voluntary homeowners associations, neighborhood association, or subdivisions with the Comprehensive Plan Office. Replacement identifiers supplied by the neighborhood, mandatory/voluntary homeowners association, neighborhood association, or subdivision may be requested through the Comprehensive Plan Office.

10.BUILD

Basic issues to consider in the fabrication and installation phases of the artwork.

- If the project involves sign toppers deliver signs to the Public Works Department or have signage shipped directly to the Sign Shop of LCG.
- Private organization installs. If individual artist or private contractor intends to install the artwork or gateway, the coordinated action plan will need to be established in STEP 7.

STEP 11. CELEBRATE + MAINTAIN

Celebrate the completion of the artwork by holding a ceremony with neighbors and local officials.

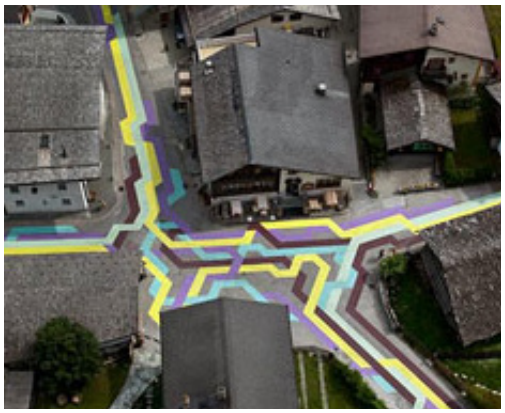
[Cleveland, OH, Tremont neighborhood gateway sign]

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Lafayette Gateway
[Lafayette, LA}

Lafayette Travel on the Evangeline Throughway hosts a large T-fer (Triangle) as you enter one of Lafayette's gateways. Stop and take a picture!

PAINT INTERSECTIONS OR BUILDING MURALS



[Street Painting #5, a Lang Bauman installation in Vercorin, Switzerland]

[Paint the Pavement.org- Hamline Park, St. Paul, MN]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. DEFINE
3. CONSENT
4. PLAN AHEAD
5. CALL + SELECT
6. FUND
7. SUBMIT
8. INSTALL
9. CELEBRATE
10. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

/EXAMPLES/
- Murals, mosaics, pavement and utility box paintings

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 8 Residential Renovation & Weatherization
PROJECT #14 Host a Better Block or Block Party
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
Actions: 2.6.1, 4.6.3, 6.11.1, 6.11.2, 6.14.2, 8.18.2

PAINT INTERSECTIONS OR BUILDING MURALS

/ WHAT IS IT /
Painting intersections is a conversion of intersection into public squares. The intersection becomes a place for people to gather. They are intended to beautify the building, express statments, create an identity. Building murals can be a fun way to express creativity and beautify the buildings in which it is completed. Building murals also make for an interesting collective project that groups can complete. The group can decide the style, size, and location of the design that will be completed. This is a guide of how to get a street mural completed in your neighborhood.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Beautifies the built environment

Social
- Creates safer intersections for pedestrians and cyclists
- Reinforces community identity and improves self-image
- Creates neighborhood relationships
- Reinvigorates existing spaces with new life

Economic
- May boost property values
- Creates commissions for local artists

/ RESOURCES /
- Painted Intersection Project, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Paint the Pavement, St. Paul, MN
- City Repair
- Techniques of Community Murals

[City Repair Project led by Mark Rivera, 4th and K St. - Davis, CA]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

Find a group of committed individuals that would like to be involved in the planning for a street mural. The group should contain at least 4-5 dedicated individuals. Lafayette has several incredible murals downtown, painted by local artists.

STEP 2. DEFINE

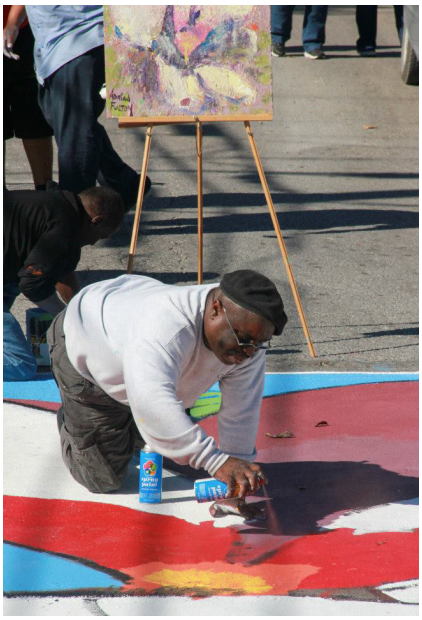
Once the group is selected, they should begin to work on all of the planning details needed for the project. First, they should define the goal that they hope to accomplish by completing a street mural. Second, they should determine the best method to achieve this goal. Lastly, they should assess the time frame that they wish to complete the project.

STEP 3. CONSENT

Members of the group should contact the LCG Comprehensive Plan Office, and make an appointment to discuss the guidelines and requirements to complete a street mural.

STEP 4. PLAN AHEAD

Once the plan is in place, group members should come up with another plan that gives the specifics of the upkeep of the proposed project. This plan should be long-term and give insight as to how the artwork will be maintained. Also there should be information on how to repair artwork if necessary. Lastly, include who is to be responsible for the maintenance of the artwork.



[Lafayette artist Adrian Fulton at work]

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Sunnyside Piazza
[Portland, OR]

Facilitated by surrounding residents in 2001, Sunnyside Piazza became the second painted community gathering square in Portland. Together the community designed, raised funds and installed the project. Occasionally the piazza is closed off for a block party. The piazza was installed to create a place in their neighborhood but as well as beautifying and express the local culture. It is also in the hopes that the idea could reduce crime by increasing eyes on the street.

PAINT INTERSECTIONS OR BUILDING MURALS

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Utility Box Program
[New Orleans, LA]

The utility art box program, conceived by non-profit Community Visions Unlimited, has created commissions for many local artists. CVU plans to have all 400 boxes in the city painted within two years. The program creates a sense of pride for people of all ages and nationalities in the community. Over $24,000 has been raised to pay the artists and for paint materials. This creates economic impact on both neighborhoods and city. People enjoy the boxes and take tours of areas where they are located.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Downtown Lafayette Murals
[Lafayette, LA]

Four of Robert Dafford's acclaimed murals, including "Till All That's Left is a Postcard," can be seen on building walls throughout downtown Lafayette. A Lafayette resident, Dafford is an American muralist who has painted over 350 murals across the United States, Canada, France, Belgium, and England.

STEP 5. CALL + SELECT
Consider holding an art competition to choose the best design. The team should consider writing a contract to guide both parties through the creation and installation of the pavement painting or mural.

STEP 6. FUND
Develop a project budget based upon the design and tools needed. Consider raising money locally through online fundraisers for projects or through grants.
Some include:
- Acadiana Center for the Arts
- Civicside Crowdfunding
- State Grants
- Business Sponsorships
- LCVC Grant Process

STEP 7. SUBMIT
Develop an installation map. Applicants shall identify the site where art work is to be painted and provide a final work order describing all content (color, font, and graphics), shape and size (dimensions), and material to the Comprehensive Plan Office for approval.

STEP 8. INSTALL
If you plan to block off the street, a Street Closure Permit Application needs to be submitted to LCG Public Works.

STEP 9. CELEBRATE
Invite neighbors, local officials and the extended community to celebrate the completion of the art.

STEP 10. MAINTAIN + ENJOY

[Completed Magnolia Street Mural in McComb-Veazey Neighborhood in Lafayette, Louisiana 2012]

12 FOSTER ACTIVITY

[Little Free Library #10988, Lafayette]

[Source: Peter O. Whiteley]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. RESEARCH
2. LOCATE
3. FUND
4. DESIGN AND BUILD
5. ACTIVATE!

/EXAMPLES/
- Street furniture, information kiosks, recreation and cultural activities

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #3 (Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape)
PROJECT # 9 (Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits)
PROJECT # 1 (Establish a Community Tool Library)
PROJECT # 13 (Install a Parklet)

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.12.4, 9.3.1

FOSTER ACTIVITY WITH A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY OR PUBLIC FURNITURE

/ WHAT IS IT /

Public seating, tables, chairs, benches and/or a Little Free Library (LFL) offer the general public amenities enjoyed at home in the social sphere of their community. These amenities are designed and placed to increase street and public space activity in places like a bus stop, a sunny corner on a busy street, or another unique place in your neighborhood. "Eyes on the street" increase safety and generate a sense of community and vibrancy.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental
- Creates pleasant, user friendly outdoor environments

Social
- Curbs crime and increases safety with more "eyes on the street"
- Increases access to low-cost recreation uses for the entire community
- Results places for communities to interact and socialize
- Enhances functionality of existing places and spaces in your neighborhood

Economic
- Increases value of public places

/ RESOURCES /

- Little Free Library #10988 – The very first official LPL in Lafayette.
- Bubbleware (2012) Public Furniture through Art Alliance Austin
- Harold Washington Playlot Park in Chicago, IL

12 FOSTER ACTIVITY

/LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Little Free Library #10988
[Lafayette, LA]

LFL #10988, the very first official Little Free Library in Lafayette is a great example of educational community art. The library is a neighborhood resource for readers of all ages.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Little Free Library #12863
[Mamou, LA]

Mamou hosts a LFL at a local public school. While the school has a library on campus the librarian is a part-time position due to budget cuts. Therefore, the little free library provides easy access to books all day, especially at recess! Students in grades Prk-4th are learning stewardship by "taking a book" and "leaving a book." Go Mamou!

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. RESEARCH
The Little Free Library website offers valuable information on planning your library, spreading the word, and preventing vandalism. Public furniture can be creative and interactive seating which encourages place-making. These interventions give residents the opportunity to sit, read, relax and enjoy their community in a new way leading to vibrant urban living.

STEP 2. LOCATE
The most important step is determining where you would like your Little Free Library or public furniture to be located. The easiest route is to choose a place on private property; your lot, your friend's lot, or your neighbors' lot.

PRIVATE PROPERTY
If you choose private property, consider the following: How visible will the LPL or furniture be? Where will it get the most use? How will it enhance the surrounding landscape? Will the maintenance be a burden to anyone? How could it tie in with other activities already going on or planned for the neighborhood? Is it in a designated LCG site triangle?

If you have decided on a location on private property, ensure that the property owner fully agrees to all aspects of the project. It may be wise to write up a contract with the property owner outlining the location, time frame, and maintenance required. Have a witness present at signing so that your great idea doesn't get in the way of a friendship!

PUBLIC PROPERTY
If you would like to locate your LPL or furniture on public property such as in park or at a school, you will need to consider the following: Will this affect the liability and safety of the land owner? Is this location in a right of way (a legal ROW or one experienced by bikers, riders, walkers, mowers, etc.?) How and when will maintenance be handled? Is the project appropriate for users of the site?

[Source: Carl Mikay]

If you have decided on a location on public proerty, ensure that you contact the Comprehensive Plan Office to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. If the government department is outside of LCG, e.g., LPSS or state, etc. to ensure that you have all the paperwork you need. Secondly, the governing organization may require their employees to install the public furniture or LPL. Ask ahead of time to avoid any and all liability issues.

STEP 3. FUND

LPLs or Public Furniture are generally inexpensive DIY projects to build. If you wish to fund the project yourself, look for items that can be recycled. Visit the Habitat Restore, Goodwill, or the Salvation Army and get creative. If you still need help finding funding, contact your local faith-based group, parents' association, local franchises, or community foundations. Explain the benefit your project will have for the neighborhood and what you are willing to do to make it come to life.

STEP 4. DESIGN + BUILD

Since you are designing and building something for the general public keep in mind the safety and durability of your project. If you are building any kind of seating, make sure that there aren't any splinters, nails, or sharp edges that could injure someone. Also, chances are that you don't want to have to repaint, clean or mow around your project on a weekly basis. Choose durable materials that are unlikely to wear and diminish the visual aesthetics of your project.

STEP 5. ACTIVATE!

Meet a friend. Play a game. Admire the art. Take a book and leave a book - start reading and enjoy!

/NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

OPENkitch'n Culture Crawl
[Washington, DC]

The ArtPlace grant community project engages residents to the neighborhood's vibrant art and culture. In collaboration with D.C. office of Planning and Rebar, the project is not solely a static dining venue but rather a progressive "cultural crawl" along the 14th Street corridor. The crawl event includes sampling of local food and drinks at several locations, live music and art.

[Bubbleware in Austin TX]

[OPENkitch'n Washington, DC]

13 INSTALL A PARKLET

[Credit: City of Oakland]

[Credit: Janet Lafleur]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. TEAM UP
2. DEFINE
3. PLAN AHEAD
4. COORDINATE
5. FUND
6. SUBMIT
7. BUILD
8. CELEBRATE

/EXAMPLES/
- Jefferson Street Parklet
- Better Block Bertrand
- Park-ing Day

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT # 12 Foster Activity with a Little Free Library or Public Furniture
PROJECT # 16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 2.6.1, 3.12.4, 3.14.4, 9.3.1, 9.4.2, 9.5.4

INSTALL A PARKLET

/ WHAT IS IT /
Parklets replace one parking space with an open space where people can sit, read, eat, visit with friends, play music or simply sit the shade. In some areas, we do not have enough places where we can enjoy these simple pleasures. To address this need, we can create a temporary or permanent parklet that follows the principles of Tactical Urbanism. Parklets put people over cars. The beautiful, interesting and lively people of Lafayette who talk, laugh, eat good food, play music, dance and tell hilarious jokes deserve more pleasant places.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Increases green space
- Reduces stormwater runoff
- Improves air quality

Social
- Creates a sense of community pride
- Raises awareness about the importance of parks and open space
- Strengthens neighbor relationships
- Activates the street
- Provides health benefits and increases wellbeing
- Serves as traffic calming, creating a safer street environment for pedestrians
- Increases access to open space for all residents

Economic
- Is a low-cost, short-term alternative until permanent open space can be provided
- Enhances the experience of nearby business
- Attracts visitors

/ RESOURCES /
- The Official Guide to Tactical Urbanism
- Tactical Urbanism, Vols 1-4
- A Guide to PopUp Parks

[Credit: Flickr.com, Viva Vancouver]

[Credit: livingstreetsla.org]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. TEAM UP

Neighbors or nearby businesses can identify possible partners by determining location, use, amenities and size of parklet.

STEP 2. DEFINE

Research and understand potential regulatory, safety and insurance requirements.Establish the scope of the project, a budget and timeline. Before filling out application:

- Establish programming for the parklet (e.g., open space for the public or for food/drink service associated with a particular business)
- How will the parklet be funded? Develop a fundraising strategy.
- How will the parklet be built? (hired contractor, volunteers, etc.)
- What does the parklet look like?

STEP 3. PLAN AHEAD

Form a group of volunteers and assign roles and responsibilities. Who will build the parklet? Who is responsible for maintaining the parklet (straightening furniture, sweeping, watering plants, picking up trash, etc.)? If possible, rotate duties to ease the burden on volunteers.

STEP 4. COORDINATE

Contact LCG and DDA (if the parklet is downtown) to seek preliminary approval. For DDA, contact the Marketing Director at 337-291-5566, extension 4.

STEP 5. FUND

Be sure to build in additional fees for permits, maintenance cost and possible replacement furniture, plants, etc.

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Chromer Building Parklet [Seattle, WA]

The Chromer Building Parklet is one of more than ten parklets funded, designed and built by the parklet applicant. Chromer was developed by Urban Visions, a private company focusing on real estate development and brokerage. With proximity to Pike Place Market, the parklet has a series of seating blocks, movable tables and chairs, and a stage for performances and art installations. The parklet is maintained by a nearby bar. It has been a policy decision to increase green public space in exchange for city's loss of revenue for the parking spot.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

South Market District Parklet
[New Orleans, LA]

The South Market District Parklet on O'Keefe Avenue and Girod Street in New Orleans is an existing expanded portion of a sidewalk. The corner has a teardrop-shaped planted area, with shrubs and plantings and has been maintained by the Downtown Development District. Improvements proposed include pavers, mixed native grasses, perennial plantings, public seating and bike racks to accommodate 10 bicycles.

13 INSTALL A PARKLET

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Jefferson Street Parklet
[Downtown Lafayette, LA]

Downtown's Jefferson Street hosts Lafayette's first parklet. The project was promoted by the Downtown Development Authority and was funded through local crowdfunding platform civicside.com. The parklet occupies a parking spot and includes chairs, tables and umbrellas. It provides an oasis for employees and patrons of nearby companies and dining establishments.

STEP 6. SUBMIT

- If application is approved, property owners on same block must sign off on parklet to proceed.
- If all signatures granted, meet with LCG, Downtown Development & Design Center or DDA, if Downtown, for design process.
- If design agreed upon, LCG or DDA, if Downtown, submits to Public Works / Parking Administration.
- If Public Works / Parking Administration approves, applicant pays Parklet Permit Fees to LCG or DDA, if Downtown.
- If objections exist, LCG or DDA, if Downtown, will work with applicant and necessary agencies to revise proposed parklet to address objections.
- If no objections at this point, applicant will be given a 2-week construction window to construct parklet on an approved timetable by LCG or DDA, if Downtown, and applicant.

STEP 7. BUILD

During construction, LCG or DDA (if the parklet is Downtown) will inspect parklet.

8. CELEBRATE

Throw an event to celebrate or launch in conjunction with a scheduled event. START PARKLETTING!

[Credit: Design Applause]

[Credit: Downtown Lafayette]

14 HOST A BETTER BLOCK

[Source: Todd Gill- block party 2014 in Fayetteville, Arkansas]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. TARGET
3. CONCEPTUALIZE
4. CONSENT
5. FUND
6. DESIGN AND BUILD

/EXAMPLES/
- Better Block Bertrand
- Better Block Cameron
- Better Block Cedar Crest

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 12 Foster Activity with a Little Free Library or Public Furniture
PROJECT # 16 Establish a Community Garden or Local Food Installation
PROJECT # 17 Start or Enhance a Neighborhood Safety Program- Applying Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED]

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.3.6, 6.11.1, 6.11.2

HOST A BETTER BLOCK OR BLOCK PARTY

/ WHAT IS IT /
Community transformation can happen one block at a time! The "Better Block" project is a demonstration tool that acts as a living charrette so that communities can actively engage in the "complete streets" buildout process and develop pop-up businesses to show the potential for revitalized economic activity in an area. Whether to inspire revitalization, or simply to engage your neighbors at a block party with a Better Block event, connecting with your neighbors is essential to community health.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
Promotes walking and biking as sustainable transportation choices

Social
- Creates opportunities to connect with neighbors
- Bolsters civic pride
- Improves walkabillity
- Allows easy visualization and understanding of complete streets and economic development potential- improving acceptance by city engineers, planners, designers, and public safety officials

Economic
- Provides a quick, inexpensive way to explore and exert high-impact changes
- Highlights underutilized and oft-ignored assets
- Uncovers latent economic development opportunities

/ RESOURCES /
- The Better Block Project
- The Official Guide to Tactical Urbanism
- Tactical Urbanism, Vols 1-4

[Source: Pam Marino]

[Face Painting at Cameron Better Block]

BLOCK PARTY CHECKLIST

- *Committee Contact List with names and phone numbers*
- *Flyers with event info*
- *Special Event Permit*
- *Noise Variance Permit*
- *Food*
- *Beverages*
- *Donations*
- *Activities*
- *Set Up*
- *Clean Up*
- *Trash*
- *Recycling*
- *Grills*
- *Safety Issues*
- *Music*
- *Restrooms*

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE/

Lafayette has hosted several Better Block events since 2014. Visit this site for photos and contact information of locals who've pulled off these great projects: Better Block Cameron; Better Block Bertrand; Better Block Cedar Crest. Better Block goals lean more towards creating a temporary space with features of what you want the block to look like. Click here to learn more. Block Parties are great community engagement activities with examples such as:clean-ups, seasonal celebrations, building morale and relationships, or to work on a day-long project.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

Start early! Form an oversight committee and subcommittees, as appropriate, to choose a date, time and location. Suggested committees include Publicity, Outreach, Infrastructure, Entertainment, Safety Permits, Food, Set-Up, and Clean-up.

STEP 2. TARGET

What are your goals for the event? What outcomes do you want to achieve? Who do you want to invite? Neighborhood residents? General public? Elected officials? Consider factors such as safety, parking, access to food, refreshments, shade, etc.

STEP 3. CONCEPTUALIZE

Better Block goals lean more towards creating a temporary space with features of what you want the block to look like. Visit How to build a better block to learn more. Block parties are great community engagement activities with examples such as: clean-ups, seasonal celebrations, building morale and relationships, or to work on a day-long project.

STEP 4. CONSENT

If you plan to serve or sell alcohol, you will need a pre-approved Alcohol Permit. If you plan to block off the street, a Street Closure Permit Application needs to be submitted to LCG Public Works.

STEP 5. FUND

Develop a project budget based upon the design and materials needed. Consider raising money locally through online fundraisers for projects (e.g., civicside.com) or through grants. Pursue funders as active partners in the project. Reach out to as many people as possible.

STEP 6. DESIGN AND BUILD

Convene your labor and material resources to the site. Make sure you have enough volunteers to last the duration of the event. Consider "plan B" options in case of weather or other challenges.

15 START BIKE LIBRARY

[Source: Krystle Kacner]

[Source: Getty Images- New York Citi Bikes]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. RESEARCH
2. INSTALL
3. ART BIKES
4. CULTIVATE

/EXAMPLES/
- Plan B New Orleans
- RUBARB

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT # 3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT #13 Install a Parklet
PROJECT # 20 Establish a Community Tool Library

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.14.4, 6.14.2

START A BIKE LIBRARY OR BIKE HUB- INSTALL A BIKE PARKING RACK

/ WHAT IS IT /
A Bike Library functions much like a book library, where one can rent a bike for a short period of time. Bicycling is not only good for our environment because of decreased pollution, but reduces car congestion on the roads. Bike riding has health benefits for the rider and the community. Creating a bike friendly community is a goal for Lafayette and you can do your part as a car driver or bike rider to: be safe and aware, look both ways!

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Reduce pollution
- Improve air quality

Social
- Provides an alternative transportation mode
- Reduces traffic congestion
- Boosts public health
- Encourages sharing

Economic
- Reduce the burden of cars costs, as well the need to own a bike

/ RESOURCES /
- How to Start A Community Bicycle Program

[Source: Emily Temple, Roanoke, Virginia]

[University of Texas at Dallas- bike repair stations]

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

New Balance Hubway
[Boston, MA]

The Hubway system launch in 2011 with 600 bicycles and 60 stations throughtout the City of Boston. The project began as a contract between the Boston Mayor and Alta Bicycle Share. The bike share program was fully funded by grants from the Federal Transit Administration and local organizations. Today there are over 1,300 bicycles distributed through 140 stations. The bicycles are available from short term to long term riding 24/7 and 3+ seasons a year.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Bike Lafayette [Lafayette, LA]

BikeLafayette is Acadiana's non-profit bicycle advocacy organization promoting bicycle safety, awareness, and education in our area. BikeLafayette hosts bike-parking corrals at many cycle-friendly Lafayette festivals.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. RESEARCH

Bike Lafayette is a tremendous resource for Lafayette, as well as UL's new cycling club on campus. Similar organizations in Baton Rouge are also doing great work and partnering with Lafayette for the new Front Yard Bikes. Bike Better is also a new online publication produced in Baton Rouge.

STEP 2. INSTALL

If you own a business, consider installing a bike rack in the area to show support for alternative transportation. Make sure the bike rack is on your property before you do so. If you aren't sure, please call Lafayette Comprehensive Planning Office at 291-7193.

STEP 3. ART BIKES

Bike racks can be simple or a fun and interesting art piece. Downtown Baton Rouge and Atlanta have great maps with Bike Rack Locations to make it easier for citizens and tourists to plan a bike trip.

STEP 4. CULTIVATE

Just for fun, host a Bike Rodeo for kids to teach them bike safety, riding skills, and hand signals. Bike rodeos engage participants in active learning, which can be more valuable than brochures, commercials and lectures.

16 ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY GARDEN

[Brock Barker teaches UL Soul Camp students at Freetown Community Garden]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. CONCEPTUALIZE
3. ANALYZE
4. ANTICIPATE + MAINTAIN
5. SEEK CONSENT
6. AGREE
7. FUND
8. PLANT
9. CELEBRATE + EAT

/EXAMPLES/
- St. Barnabas Church Community Garden
- EarthShare Gardens
- McComb-Veazey Community Garden
- St. Joseph's Diner Food Garden
- Freetown Community Garden

/RELATED PROJECTS
PROJECT #6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood
PROJECT # 20 Establish a Community Tool Library

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 2.12.2, 3.12.4, 3.14.4, 4.5.6, 8.7.1, 9.4.2

ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY GARDEN OR LOCAL FOOD INSTALLATION

/ WHAT IS IT /
Community and school gardens are a great way to beautify the environment, while also providing access to local fruits and vegetables. Louisiana has a year-round growing season making it easy to produce your own food. Food gardens are educational, fun, healthy and environmentally friendly.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Beautifies landscape
- Provides habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Conserves water and filters stormwater
- Improves air quality from carbon sequestration

Social
- Creates a more welcoming neighborhood environment
- Gardens reduce stress on urban dwellers
- Managed landscapes can deter crime - CPTED

Economic
- Reduces funds spent on maintenance, fertilizer, pesticides, replanting

/ RESOURCES /
- Steps to growing a successful school garden by LSU AgCenter
- LSU AgCenter HelpDesk: 337-291-7099
- Community Roots

16 ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY GARDEN

REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Grow Dat Youth Farm
[New Orleans, LA]

Grow Dat Youth is a nonprofit organization devoted to nurture young leaders through the meaningful work of growing food. The Grow Dat farm is located on a 4-acre site in New Orleans' City Park, with 2 acres of cultivable land. The farm site sits on an abandoned golf course which, with assistance from Tulane City Center (TCC), is gradually being into a diversified organic farm cultivated by local youth. Grow Dat uses chemical-free farming methods to build a resilient sustainable agricultural system. The farm produces healthy food for local residents, including vegetables, fruit, herbs and mushrooms from October to June and cover crops the fields during the summer months. In 2014, the farm anticipated producing up to 40,000 pounds of food. Sixty percent of Grow Dat's production is sold in a markets, restaurants, and corner stores. The farm also offers Farm Shares, a form of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), to "resident investors," who receive a weekly share of the farm's harvest during the growing season. The remainder of the crops is donated to a variety of organizations through the Shared Harvest program, increasing access to healthy food for those most in need throughout the community.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE
Reach out to friends, neighbors and community groups in your neighborhood or school to see who is interested in starting a garden. A group of 4-5 people is ideally needed to grow a garden and share maintenance throughout the year.

STEP 2. CONCEPTUALIZE
Define and plan your project. Start small! Not all community gardens need be for food production. Consider a low-maintenance garden, with perennials, herbs, and natives, or try a rain garden. Starting a school garden? Call LSU AgCenter at 337-291-7090 to discuss your project and find out about the great school gardens in the area. Another LCG Resource is the Acadiana Park Nature Station and the Community Roots Program.

STEP 3. ANALYZE
If you plan to grow vegetables, you will want to find a location that is accessible to water and has 6-8 hours of sunlight. Check if the land you would be growing on has proper drainage.

STEP 4. ANTICIPATE + MAINTAIN
Consider the time and maintenance required for gardens when sizing up your plot. Harvesting food is the fun part, however other duties include weeding, watering, planting and composting. You will want a group of committed individuals to maintain the garden.

STEP 5 SEEK CONSENT
• Contact the Planning, Zoning and Development Department, Comprehensive Plan Office, and make an appointment to discuss the guidelines and requirements for a community garden.

[Children's Garden Beds built by McComb-Veazey Coterie]

• Establish Ownership. The geographical boundary for the area and the ownership of the property on which the garden is to be installed must be established during the first meeting.

• Review staff will consider the quality, aesthetics, and safety of all proposed projects.

• Register in the Contact Database. All community gardens on public property will need to register with LCG.

STEP 6. AGREE

Maintenance and liability issues will be outlined in a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement signed by your organization and LCG.

STEP 7. FUND

Develop a project budget based upon the garden design and tool needs. Consider raising money locally through online fundraisers for projects, such as Civicside.com. Grants are also available through the ACGA.

STEP 8. PLANT

Planting the garden will require the proper preparation of the soil and garden beds. Grass can be removed with a sod cutter or tilled and raked out.

STEP 9.CELEBRATE + EAT

Locally grown food can be used for community and educational purposes. If your garden produces extra, consider donating to a local food bank or senior center. A great program to research is Grow a Row for the Hungry.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

EarthShare Gardens
[Scott, LA]

EarthShare Gardens is a nonprofit organization created with the goals of establishing organic community gardens, fostering Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects, educating residents about organic and permaculture gardening methods, sustainable agriculture and horticulture therapy gardening, and sharing fresh vegetables with local soup kitchens and food pantries. The farm is located on a 4 acre track of land in Scott. EarthShare Gardens provide fresh local organic food to shareholders, vegetable donations to those in need of food, gardening as horticulture therapy and a place for community gardeners to grow their own vegetables. EarthShare Gardens was the first CSA in the Acadiana area. The subscription shares pay for the part-time Garden Manager's contract salary, garden supplies and equipment. In addition, garden plots are rented out seasonally to community gardeners, who have also have access to garden tools. The Donation Garden section of the farm provides fresh vegetables to local soup kitchens and local food banks for those in need.

[McComb-Veazey Coterie and the Junior League of Lafayette after building a children's garden]

[Source: Denver Urban Gardens - Cook Park, Denver]

7 START OR ENHANCE SAFETY PROGRAM

[Source: Washington, OR]

[Source: Steve Woolrich - designing with CPTED in mind]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. RESEARCH
2. ORGANIZE
3. PLAN
4. TAKE ACTION
5. INFORM + ENGAGE

/EXAMPLES/
- Neighborhood Watch Organizations
- Block Captain Program
- National Night Out
- SafeGrowth

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT # 6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT #12 Foster Activity with a Little Free Library or Public Furniture
PROJECT # 18 Conduct a Walkability Audit for Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.12.4, 3.14.4

START OR ENHANCE A NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM- APPLYING CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN [CPTED]

/ WHAT IS IT /
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is an approach to reduce criminal behavior through deliberate choices in the design of the physical environment. Often the design choices can vary from a small element such as where to place a street light, to something as big as improving the entire neighborhood. The four main principles of CPTED are natural surveillance, natural access control, territorial reinforcement and maintenance.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
- Reduces crime, helps clean up streets and vacant lots and buildings
- Increases safety so people are more inclined to walk and bike

Social
- Fosters collaboration, neighborhood ownership and responsibility
- Improves sense of place and personal investment in community
- Improves perception of neighborhood safety and security
- Encourages meeting and learning from your neighbors

Economic
- Can help improve property values
- Can help encourage neighborhood reinvestment
- Helps local businesses

/ RESOURCES /
- International CPTED Association
- National Crime Prevention Council
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Training Program
- Center for Problem-Oriented Policing
- LCG Neighborhood Watch Program
- Lafayette Advisory Commission on Crime Prevention
- SafeGrowth

[Source: Stephen Miller- Eyes on street in NYC]

[Source: metrolinx.com - Metrolinx Mobility Hubs Guidelines: Crime Prevention]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. RESEARCH

Lafayette has existing neighborhood national programs such as Neighborhood Watch. For more information, please contact our Lafayette Police Department at (337) 291-8617. To contact the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Neighborhood Watch Programs, call the Crime Prevention Officer at 236-5613 for information. For non-emergency situations, file an Online Report with Lafayette Police Department. Connect with local council members and law enforcement in Police Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

STEP 2. ORGANIZE

Find and team up with a core group of individuals in your neighborhood to develop an assessment, plan and action agenda. Establish a schedule of regular meetings. Partner with existing neighborhood pride and neighborhood watch groups in your area, if available, or attend your neighborhood coterie meeting. Please call the Comprehensive Planning Office to find out if your neighborhood has a coterie, 337-291- 7193.

STEP 3. PLAN

Develop a Crime Prevention and Reduction Action Plan (CPRAP). Start by identifying physical and behavioral neighborhood factors and issues. Inventory and map assets and liabilities. Contact the Police or Sheriff's Department for information and advice. What can you do to improve conditions? Consider integrating CPTED Design Principles as a tool to prevent and reduce crime opportunities. Establish priorities and identify early action projects. Will you need funding? Fundraise or research available grants.

STEP 4. TAKE ACTION

Begin by enacting short-term, low-hanging fruit/low or no cost actions from your CPRAP, particularly in the four major areas of CPTED:

- Natural Surveillance entails visibility in and out of home and business windows. Many crimes happen in areas of low visibility. Increase visibility by encouraging property owners to trim hedges and by managing common landscape areas. The 3-8 rule encourages hedges be no higher than 3 feet and tree limbs no lower than 8 feet. Fencing

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Hollygrove SafeGrowth
[New Orleans, LA]

Working with Greg Saville, (a criminologist, former law enforcement officer, and urban planner based in Washington State who has written extensively on SafeGrowth) and AARP, the neighborhood of Hollygrove conducted a safety audit developed a framework of intervention policies and practices. The Hollygrove SafeGrowth effort directly engaged the residents of the neighborhood, empowering them to work together, and providing them the necessary tools and technical assistance to implement simple initiatives that benefit their entire neighborhood. Community activities are on the rise, among them a walking club, Night Out Against Crime event, street cleanups and emerging cultural organizations which raise funds for improvements. Thanks to these strategies, violent crime in the area has dropped 68%.

7 START OR ENHANCE SAFETY PROGRAM

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

SafeAlex
[Alexandria, LA]

SafeAlex is a citywide program that empowers neighborhoods to work toghether to eliminate or reduce factors that are causing economic distress in many Alexandria neighborhoods and improve the appeal, attractiveness and health of these neighborhoods. SafeAlex addresses four primary areas: Health (ShapeUP), Safety (Crime Prevention), Physical (CleanUP), Youth (AlexCorps). SafeAlex Crime Prevention incorporates both the uniformed patrol of the Alexandria Police Department (APD) and a civilian component for community engagement and problem identification. SafeAlex Crime Prevention project design utilizes concepts from problem-oriented policing, Second Generation Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), and place-based policing.

should allow for visibility on both sides. And clear window access allows for residents to survey the area and keep an eye on the streets. Consider ways to increase street lighting levels.

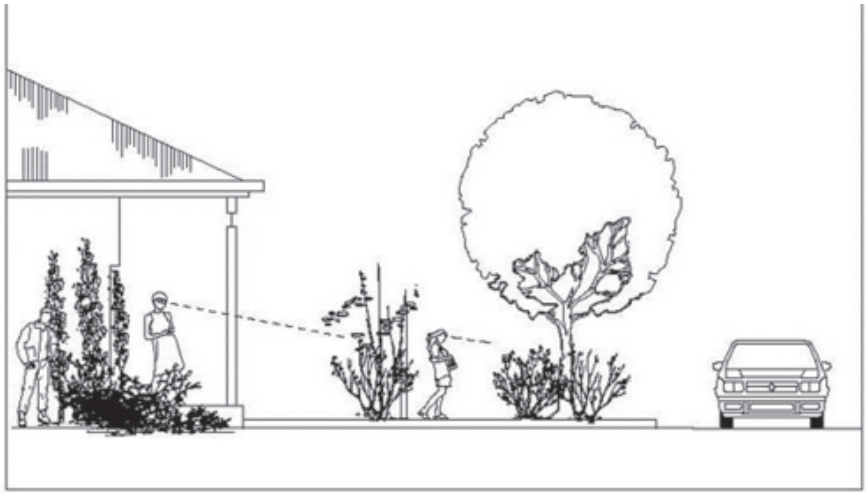
- Natural Access Control encourages residents to create a primary entrance and exit into buildings. Perpetrators will avoid areas of high visibility. Using lighting at entrances, fences and mechanical and electrical locks are a few tips.

- Territorial Reinforcement refers to demonstrating "ownership" of the area by the neighborhood residents. Evidence of this is "ownership" is upkeep of homes and yards, flower beds, seasonal decorations, and business signage. Paved areas and fences on private property reinforces the perception of territoriality. Eyes on the street and street activity also contribute to a sense of communal territorial reinforcement. A community garden, block parties, clean up events and walking tours (tools also offered in as part of this kit) provide great opportunities to increase the perception of a caring, attentive neighborhood.

- Maintenance of private lawns and litter pick-up reinforces ownership and can deter criminals.

STEP 5. INFORM + ENGAGE

Present your Crime Prevention and Reduction Action Plan to the Police or Sheriff's Department, and to your local government administrator and elected officials for support.



[Source: CPTED Chronicles]

[Source: Pleasantview Elementary- Sauk Rapids, MN]

18 CONDUCT A WALKABILITY AUDIT

CONDUCT A WALKABILITY AUDIT FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

/ WHAT IS IT /

Walking audits help identify barriers or challenges to walking in a community. Originally, this tool was developed specifically for schools to analyze student behavior related to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program, but cities and communities use audits to monitor similar activity among the general population.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /

Environmental
- Walking reduces wasteful energy and greenhouse emissions

Social
- Safer, more comfortable walking routes for residents
- Better understanding of the neighborhood's layout, assets and liabilities
- Promotes community and individual health

Economic
- Improving walkability can attract families looking to relocate to more livable communities
- Greater walkability improves revenues for businesses on walkable routes

/ RESOURCES /

- Walkability Workbook 101
- Bike Lafayette - a resource promoting the safety of all vulnerable road users
- Sample Audits for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

/TOOLKIT STEPS/

1. ORGANIZE
2. RESEARCH
3. SURVEY
4. TAKE ACTION

/EXAMPLES/

- Safe Routes to School
- Walking Clubs

/RELATED PROJECTS/

PROJECT #3 Clean the Streets & Beautify the Streetscape
PROJECT #6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT # 15 Start a Bike Library or Bike Hub- Install a Bike Parking Rack
PROJECT # 17 Start or Enhance a Neighborhood Safety Program- Applying Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED]
PROJECT #19 Develop a Neighborhood Walking Tour & Market Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/

ACTIONS: 4.5.2, 6.11.1, 6.11.2, 6.14.2

[Dan Burden presenting on walkable communities- Kalamazoo, MI]

[State Street- Madison, Wisconsin]

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School
[Rock Hill, South Carolina]

Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School initiated a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program in 2012. The first program completed under the program involved the upper classmen (sixth graders) working directly with the SRTS members. Students were trained on how to spot challenges and deficiencies in the walking and biking network and helped identify barriers during the audit.

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

Overall, Lafayette is a car-dependent city. According to Walkscore.com, Lafayette has a walkscore of 39 out of 100. Learn more about our WalkScore compared to other cities on this website. Join forces with your great neighbors and friends to investigate walkability in your specific area.

STEP 2. RESEARCH

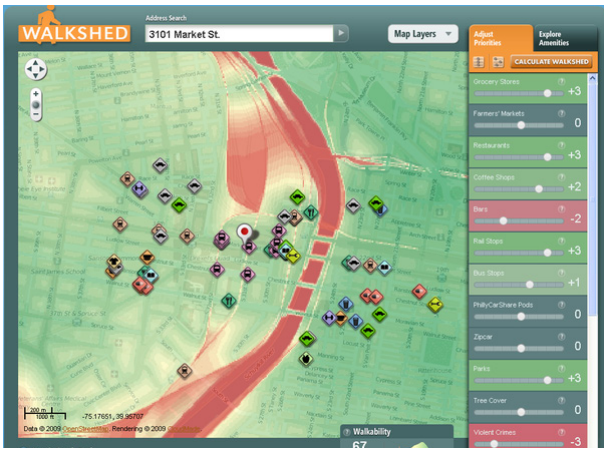
Understand what makes a neighborhood walkable. According to WalkScore.com, it includes the following amenities:

- A center: Walkable neighborhoods have a center, whether it's a main street or a public space.
- People: Enough people for businesses to flourish and for public transit to run frequently.
- Mixed income, mixed use: Affordable housing located near businesses.
- Parks and public space: Plenty of public places to gather and play.
- Pedestrian design: Buildings are close to the street, parking lots are relegated to the back.
- Schools and workplaces: Close enough that most residents can walk from their homes.
- "Complete streets" are inclusive of all road-users and designed for bicyclists, pedestrians and transit.

STEP 3. SURVEY

Conduct the walkability survey. The survey typically includes a group tour of the route or location (e.g., school, corridor, neighborhood, etc.),

[Source: Inhabitat.com- New York City]



[Walkshed Philadelphia]

during which participants identify issues related to walking and biking, followed by a debriefing and brainstorming session to prioritize the concerns and identify potential solutions.

Items to measure in your survey:
- pedestrian facilities
- conflicts
- sidewalk obstructions
- crosswalks
- path size
- road buffer
- accessibility
- aesthetics
- shade

Organizations such as Health by Design also offer suggestions on surveys and action items to promote walkability in your neighborhood. You may also want to consult a Walkshed Map of Baton Rouge, which depicts where a 20-minute walk can get you around town.

STEP 4. TAKE ACTION

Once your survey is complete, summarize and record your results and action plan, then:

- Share your results with neighbors and community leadership.
- Share your results with government agencies, and partner to find points of common benefit that can translate into projects and/or money for projects (e.g., grants)
- Let the elected officials know that a pedestrian-friendly environment is important to you.
- Beautify your neighborhood streets with trees and landscape, public art, painted intersections, debris removal, etc. (and calm traffic in the process).

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Walkability Audit
[Lafayette, LA]

Lafayette recruited expert Dan Burden to conduct a walkability audit in downtown Lafayette. The audit was funded under a grant and allowed an all-day walk-through of the Downtown area with a group to identify needs, challenges and opportunities for pedestrians.

19 WALKING TOUR

[Source: John S. Dykes]

[Source: StableCommunities.org]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. ORGANIZE
2. PLAN
3. COMMUNICATE
4. IMPLEMENT

/EXAMPLES/
• Walking Clubs

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #9 Create Public Art Installations or Exhibits
PROJECT #10 Create a Gateway in Your Neighborhood
PROJECT #18 Conduct a Walkability Audit for Your Neighborhood

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 4.3.6, 4.5.2

DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOUR & MARKET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

/ WHAT IS IT /
Neighborhood walking tours are a great tool to showcase and market your neighborhood to both residents and visitors. The tours can vary depending on what the neighborhood has to offer. Tours can range from a variety of interests of architectural, landmarks to food. Researching the neighborhood's current image can begin with historical references and timelines. Branding and marketing for a neighborhood should aim to tell the story of a place, highlight cultural, business and community assets.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
• Walking reduces wasteful energy and greenhouse emissions
• Supports alternative transportation modes
• Encourages people to spend time outside and among nature

Social
• Promotes the neighborhood
• Activates local, public outdoor space
• Increases pedestrian safety

Economic
• Increases access to, and awareness of, local and neighborhood businesses and natural and cultural assets
• Attracts visitors and encourages visitor spending

/ RESOURCES /
• Killer Promotional Tactics
• The Neighborhood Marketing Program
• Stray Boots

[Source: Curtis park walking tour- Denver's oldest neighborhood]

[Illustrated map of Whittier Heights]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. ORGANIZE

Team up with your neighborhood organization and local businesses to brainstorm together on ways to promote the assets of your neighborhood.

STEP 2. PLAN

Define the goals for your marketing effort and develop a work plan, schedule and budget. Define what distinguishes your neighborhood. Research the neighborhood's current image, beginning with historical references and timelines. Work with local artists to help create a brand statement, a neighborhood logo and tagline. Branding and marketing should aim to tell the story of the place, highlighting cultural, business and community assets. You will need resources so this is the time to recruit partners, volunteers and fundraise.

STEP 3. COMMUNICATE

Develop a marketing communications plan and collateral, which may include:

- Maps
- Flags /signage
- Stickers
- Shirts

STEP 4. IMPLEMENT

Implement the strategies described in Marketing Plan to reposition the neighborhood's image:

- Work with media to promote your neighborhood events
- Start your neighborhood walking tour(s):
  - Historical places /architecture of significance /art & culture
  - Food
  - Bike & Hike/ Bike & Brew
  - Natural amenities, swamps, parks, museums, bayous / bird watching

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Walkable Tigard
[Tigard, OR]

The City of Tigard is striving to become one of the most walkable cities of its kind and a model for healthy, engaged communities in a low-density suburban city. To this end, the city has developed a strategy that promotes Tigard's status as a leading walkable suburban city; showcases Tigard's growing pedestrian network; and fosters community support for more walkable neighborhoods. The city prepared a Walkable Tigard Communications Plan that focuses communication efforts around a small handful of positive, action-oriented messages. One of the tools proposed in th Communications Plan is creating walking maps for neighborhoods around town, featuring route options, destinations, and interesting sights. The city also holds regular Tigard Walks tours.

/ LOCAL BEST PRACTICE /

Lafayette Azalea Trail
[Lafayette, LA]

Beginning from the Visitor Center the 20 mile trail meanders through the city, passing by many landmarks: City Hall, St. John Cathedral, Museums, and Performing Arts Center. The prime time to visit is during the blooming season of March 1 to April 4. Please see the website for a trail map.

20 COMMUNITY TOOL LIBRARY

[Source: NE Seattle Tool Library]

/TOOLKIT STEPS/
1. RESEARCH
2. MANAGE
3. REGULATE
4. CONSIDER
5. LEND AND BUILD

/EXAMPLES/
• HandsOn New Orleanst Tool Lending Library

/RELATED PROJECTS/
PROJECT #6 Develop a Neighborhood Sustainability Asset Inventory
PROJECT #7 Hold a Neighborhood Energy Challenge
PROJECT #8 Residential Renovation & Weatherization

/RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTION(S)/
ACTIONS: 3.5.1, 3.5.3, 7.8.2

ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY TOOL LIBRARY

/ WHAT IS IT /
Tool sharing is an economical way to pool resources and support fellow citizens in DIY projects. An alternative to purchasing tools in each household, the community can share the tools and use as needed. This will also reduce the space needed to store the tools in the household. Possible project ideas may include winterization, restoration, tree planting, and clean-up days. Lending tools for events and projects is a valuable contribution to maintaining and revitalizing the city.

/ WHY DO IT: NEIGHBORHOOD BENEFITS /
Environmental
• Reduces travel for getting materials and tools for local projects

Social
• Reduces financial burden for residents that cannot afford tools
• Encourages and empowers residents to complete individual and community projects
• Increases interaction with neighbors
• Creats teaching, learning, and training opportunities for residents, youth, and craftsmen

Economic
• Reduces personal cost for home repair and maintenance
• Generates opportunities to employ residents, offer training, and promote volunteering
• Promotes individual property improvement, yard maintenance, and beautification that increases property values and promotes neighborhood image, resilience, and growth

/ RESOURCES /
• Power tools the people!
• How to start a tool lending library

[West Seattle Mobile Tool Library]

[Berkeley Tool Lending Library]

/ HOW TO DO IT /

STEP 1. RESEARCH

Consider starting small and sharing tools with your neighbors, or start your own neighborhood sharing website or email list. Here is a Guide to Sharing, with tips for lending projects. Will your tool library be volunteer run and informal? Or will you need a host organization or non-profit to provide services or staffing? Research similar programs in other towns, such as How to Start a Lending Library or Seattle's Tool Library Starter Kit.

STEP 2. MANAGE

Managing inventory and operations is a crucial part of organizing a tool library. Gene Hominick of West Seattle's Tool Lending Library suggests two resources designed specifically to help manage tool and lending libraries: Local Tools and Tool Librarian. While they differ in specific features and goals, both of these systems allow you to manage members, inventory, loans, etc. and they embed "best practices" right into the system.

STEP 3. REGULATE

Member agreements should be signed before tool rental. Policies should entail age requirements, lending period, residency, photo I.D. and if a safety training is needed for the tool. Liability waivers should also be signed. Some tool libraries have organizational insurance or use the insurance of their sponsoring organization.

STEP 4. CONSIDER

- Have a committed maintenance plan for each tool and requirements for returning clean and with all parts.
- Find a secure location to store your tools and allow open hours for the community.
- A tool library may also want to offer Training books for check-out and How-To guides for tools.

STEP 5. LEND AND BUILD

/ NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

West Philly Tool Library
[Philadelphia PA]

The tool library established in 2007 is a fiscally sponsored project of the Urban Affairs Coalities (UAC) and one-half of the funding from annual membership dues and late fees. With three part time staff and a volunteer committee there are approximately 3,500 tools and 1,500 memebers as of 2013. The goal of the tool library is to provide tools and knowledge to community memebers so simple maintenance tasks can be performed at home.

/ REGIONAL BEST PRACTICE /

Hands On New Orleans Tool Lending Library
[New Orleans, LA]

The HandsOn New Orleans Tool Lending Library was created to be a resource to the people of New Orleans. Residents and non-profit organizations have access to a library that consists of nearly 3,000 tools, which have been used to repair homes, plant trees, beautify schools, clean parks, and perform regular household maintenance.

04 YOU'RE FINISHED... NOW WHAT?

1. MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

So you chose your project, found a team, developed a plan and successfully implemented your strategy. Now your street is beautifully landscaped; your community garden is planted and growing; your public art is installed and admired by all. The trees must be watered and pruned periodically; the garden will need materials and tools, or may require security; the public art will need inspections and maintenanc.

How do you keep the project going and ensure its long-term viability?

Depending on the project, and unless it is of a short-term, temporary nature, as you plan you must make sure that you consider the cost of operating and maintaining the project beyond "opening day." Will you need to engage partners or commit volunteers? Hire personnel? Contract outside services? What materials will be needed? What resource are available? Develop an operating and maintenance plan, budget and schedule for the project.

Once you have an understanding of the maintenance and operation needs, discuss them with your partners and allies (including LCG) and agree on roles and responsibilities. Incorporate that understanding into any contract or memorandum of agreement, prior to embarking on the project.

Conduct timely research on sources of renewable money, such as grants. If you fundraised to cover initial project costs, is that a viable longer term funding option for maintenance and operations? If so, consider your strategy for periodic fundraising. Set annual fundraising goals and a create a calendar and a scope of events suited to your needs and capacity.

2. LESSONS LEARNED

While researching precedents help, every neighborhood and every project are different. Trial and error is bound to happen. It's all part of the process! As you work on your project, from conception to implementation, track and document take-away lessons. Not only will they help you the next time you undertake a similar project, but they will help you become a better "project manager" if you decide to tackle other types of projects. Your experiences may also become best practices for others who may be considering a similar undertaking.

Following, local project leaders share a few thoughts about their own experience implementing neighborhood projects and "do's and don'ts" that they learned.

"Community projects are infectious... they take on a life of their own! You never know what you will learn from each other...young and old...and you always get back more than you give! Working with your neighbors is good for the soul, heart, pride and creates fellowship."
Candy Bienvenu, Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners

"Don't ask anyone to do anything you are not willing to do yourself."
Stephanie Cornay Dugan, Townfolk

"Avoid frivolous meetings. These should be small and task-oriented. Everyone should leave with action items."
Kate Durio, Recover Lafayette

"Strong photography, video, messaging and testimonials are key to securing future funding and sustaining the program or event. "
Kate Durio, Recover Lafayette

" Make sure the volunteer knows you're grateful before they leave, and make sure they know they're welcome back for future projects!"
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Step back and do two things at this point. 1. See what you just accomplished with VOLUNTEER labor. It's amazing what people can do when they put their minds to it. And, 2. Critique yourself. What can you change? What couldn't have gone any better? "
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Our projects are impossible without volunteer support, they're what keep us going. And there are days when we're exhausted, and it's a Saturday, and we just want to be able to sleep in late and go to the Farmers Market. But, these volunteers are here on their day off… to help us!!! That's what we keep in the forefront of our mind, these heroic volunteers that are being generous of their off time, to make a difference… [And] remember these are volunteers, they might not have the widest skill-set, so find their strengths instead of focusing on their weaknesses! "
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

We watch the weather, and we come up with Plan B's and C's often. We also communicate this to the volunteer. If the game plan changes, we let the volunteer know as soon as we do, which is why we have every volunteer's email and phone number. We've learned 100% rain doesn't always mean 100% rain, and we often choose to wait 'til the last minute to call an event off or change our course of action. Execute with a smile!
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Having helped to found 5 non-profit organizations in the past 17 years related to health, sustainability, beautification and historical preservation, I can say that a group as small at 3-4 passionate citizens can make a huge impact in the community, especially if they have three things… passion, patience and persistence."
Cheryl Perret, Scenic Lafayette

"Start early, don't wait."
Kate Durio, Recover Lafayette

"The goal I usually strive for is to find projects that don't exclude anyone. If it does, I pursue something else… Also, I try to have one short-term project that is quickly accomplished, and one long term project that people can stay focused on. The short-term one gives a sense of accomplishment, the long-term a common goal."
Monique Koll, Executive Director of Bike Lafayette

"Make sure everyone is being utilized! Finish and thank them! "
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Be sure to use your peripheral vision and have your eyes EVERYWHERE! Our team makes sure everyone is working, and everyone is doing their job correctly, before they jump into a task themselves. The worst feeling for a volunteer is knowing you did something wrong, and that it needs to be undone. Or that you wasted your time on something."
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Since these are volunteers, I find it's important to remind them about the mission and goals of the day. Every Saturday we begin with a run-down of what Habitat is, because maybe they just know we build houses… but we're so much more. We also let them know what we're doing and what we hope to accomplish. "
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"For large groups we, as a team, constantly communicate weeks in advance to iron out any wrinkles. We figure out a tentative task list and we communicate this to volunteers."
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Plan!
A project will rarely be successful without proper planning. Due to people coming and going every which way, our success is due to COMMUNICATION. Communicate regularly to those that will be managing the shifts, and make it easy for them to communicate any changes or needs they have. Have a point person for all volunteers. This way nothing is lost in the shuffle. If volunteers want to schedule, they do so through one contact or the volunteer system."
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Please don't use reply all."
Kate Durio, Recover Lafayette

"Surround yourself with positive, like-minded people and don't be afraid to delegate or you'll make yourself crazy and stressed. Build a network of people with similar goals and interests or who just want to help. The best projects come from great collaborations."
Tina Shelvin, McComb-Veazey Coterie Vice-Chair

"We do require all volunteers to sign up in advance due to Site Limitations. This helps us plan effectively."
Joelle Boudreaux, Habitat for Humanity

"Identify partners who not only can bring something beneficial to the table but who will also be excited to help."
Kate Durio, Recover Lafayette

05 APPENDIX

01 Related PlanLafayette Actions (extracted from PlanLafayette) A-78

02 Best Practice Links A-81

03 Lafayette Recommended Tree Species Guide A-85

A01. RELATED PLANLAFAYETTE ACTIONS

COMMUNITY CHARACTER ELEMENT

2.6.1

(Projects 3, 9, 10, 11)
Identify strategic locations for the integration of public art, historical markers, and gateway features into public projects and establish a dedicated funding mechanism for implementation.

2.12.2

(Projects 9, 10, 13, 16)
Provide publicly accessible open space such as plazas, parklets, and pop-up installations to augment the park inventory for surrounding neighborhoods.

HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS ELEMENT

3.3.4

(Projects 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
Support the Keep Lafayette Beautiful Committee and encourage programs that recognize and reward well groomed and attractive properties.

3.3.6
(Projects 1, 2, 4, 13, 14)
Create an "Adopt-a-Lot" program to aid in litter abatement.

3.5.1

(Projects 8, 20)
Partner with community based organizations to implement a tool loan program that would lend tools to neighborhood residents for property improvements.

3.5.3

(Project 8, 20)
Consider a low-cost loan or tax credit program that would encourage homeowners to invest in exterior home improvements.

3.12.4

(Projects 1, 2, 3, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17)
Promote the utilization of vacant sites as public parks or community gardens or public art installations to reduce undesirable impacts of vacancy and provide a neighborhood asset. Funding can be acquired through state and federal grants, with other community partners, or through crowdsourcing.

3.14.4

(Projects 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 15, 16, 18)
Adopt conservation and improvement programs to increase the quality and sustainability of neighborhoods.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT

4.3.6
(Project 19)
Expand historical tourism through Lafayette Convention & Visitors Commission marketing materials including a comprehensive listing of historical assets and walking tour ideas.

4.5.2

(Project 19)
Continue to create low cost guided walking tours of historic resources in Lafayette to showcase the region's numerous historic buildings and places, including downtown, the Sterling Grove Historic District, and the McComb-Veazey neighborhood.

4.5.6
(Project 16)
Cultivate Lafayette's position as a food destination by evaluating and expanding on "food infrastructure" in the Lafayette community.

4.6.3

(Projects 9, 11)
Create public art, such as murals, that involve schools and children in design and creation of projects.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY ELEMENT

6.11.1

(Projects 11, 14, 18)
Continue and expand the existing traffic calming program to additional neighborhood streets meeting the program's criteria and with support from the community.

6.11.2

(Projects 11, 14, 18)
Educate citizens on traffic calming program through success stories, before and after photographs to show the impact, and results of changes in behavior.

6.14.2

(Projects 3, 11, 15, 18)
Work with local business and property owners to fund transportation improvements, signage, and streetscape improvements in key locations.

UTILITIES ELEMENT

7.3.3

(Projects 1, 2, 4)
Encourage planting of drought resistant and native plants and continue to support water conservation through the parishwide water conservation policy regarding lawn watering for all local governments through intergovernmental agreements.

7.6.3

(Project 5)
Expand the Rain Barrel Program to improve water quality by reducing the amount of stormwater runoff and surface water pollutants that enter the Bayou Vermilion watershed.

7.8.2

(Projects 6, 7, 20)
Increase outreach and education to LUS customers about cost savings associated with lighting improvements, smart meters, insulation, maintaining systems, and other home energy improvements.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES ELEMENT

8.7.1

(Project 16)
Partner with neighborhood and civic organizations and LPSS to increase the number of neighborhood community gardens on vacant properties.

8.18.2

(Projects 9, 11)
Partner with organizations to design and install public art in public buildings.

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

9.3.1

(Project 12, 13)
Partner with health providers and advocacy organizations to develop opportunities for passive and active recreation that is consistent with the needs of different user groups including – children, special needs communities, and seniors.

9.4.2
(Projects 13, 16)
Consider parks and recreation sites that are best suited to host farmers market and/or dedicate space for community gardens and urban agriculture

9.5.4

(Project 13)
Design parks that become community meeting places with play opportunities that are available to children of all levels of ability.

9.8.2

(Project 1, 2, 4, 5, 7)
Create best practices demonstration projects (e.g., rain gardens, pervious pavers, green roofs on parks and recreation buildings, bioswales) and communicate their benefits in Lafayette parks.

9.8.3

(Projects 1, 2)
Prioritize park and recreation sites for planting new trees.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION ELEMENT

10.2.1

(Project 2)
Develop a consolidated set of street tree planting guidelines that are sensitive to surrounding context and use and align conflicting rules.

10.2.3

(Projects 1, 2)
Work with organizations like Trees Acadiana to encourage landowners to plant native trees on their property through grants, incentives, and assistance with installation.

10.2.4

(Projects 1, 2)
Partner with local nurseries to offer discounts or promotions to encourage planting of native trees.

A02. BEST PRACTICE LINKS

1. USE NATIVE PLANTS FOR HABITAT & BIODIVERSITY

Local Best Practice:
Native Plant Flower Bed [University of Louisiana Lafayette Campus]
http://www.lafayettegardenclub.org/

Regional Best Practice:
LSU Hilltop Arboretum [Baton Rouge, LA]
http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/hilltop/

National Best Practice:
Armour Villa Neighborhood [Bronxville, New York]
http://myhometownbronxville.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=861:armour-villa-neighborhood-volunteers-to-create-native-plant-garden&catid=79:letters-to-the-editor&Itemid=27

2. PLANT AND CARE FOR TREES

Local Best Practice:
Louisiana Avenue Median [Lafayette, LA]

Regional Best Practice:
Parkway Partners [New Orleans, LA]
http://parkwaypartnersnola.org/

National Best Practice:
Million Trees NYC [New York]
http://http://westphillytools.org/

3. CLEAN THE STREETS & BEAUTIFY THE STREETSCAPE

Local Best Practice:
SOUL Camp [University of Louisiana Lafayette]
http://orientation.louisiana.edu/soul-camp

Regional Best Practice:
Keep Louisiana Beautiful #LitterGram [satewide]
http://keeplouisianabeautiful.org/

National Best Practice:
Anacostia Watershed Society [Bladensburg,MD]
http://www.anacostiaws.org/

4. INSTALL RAIN GARDENS

Local Best Practice:
Parking Lot Rain Garden [Vermillionville, Lafayette]
http://www.vermilionville.org/bayou-vermilion-district/

Regional Best Practice:
Pilot Rain Garden [Gentilly, New Orleans, LA] http://blog.nola.com/new_orleans/2014/02/pilot_rain_garden_in_gentilly.html

National Best Practice:
Village of Niles Community Rain Garden [Niles, IL]
http://narc.org/wp-content/uploads/Village-of-Niles-Case-Study.pdf

5. INSTALL RAIN BARRELS

Local Best Practice:
Vermilionville Vegetable Garden Irrigation [Lafayette, LA]
http://www.vermilionville.org/Bayou%20Vermilion%20District/vermilion-history

Regional Best Practice:
Cypress Cisterns [Cajun Country, LA]

National Best Practice:
Collinwood Painted Rain Barrel Project [Cleveland OH]
http://paintedrainbarrel.org/

6. DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD SUSTAINABILITY ASSET INVENTORY

Regional Best Practice:
New Orleans Open Green Map [New Orleans, LA]
http://www.greenmap.org/greenhouse/en/user/1462

National Best Practice:
Southwest Garden neighborhood [St. Louis, MO]
http://www.southwestgarden.org/
http://www.southwestgarden.org/wp-content/uploads/swgn-asset-inventory.pdf

7. HOLD A NEIGHBORHOOD ENERGY CHALLENGE

Regional Best Practice:
City of New Orleans Benchmarking [New Orleans, LA]
http://www.imt.org/news/the-current/new-orleans-benchmarks-its-municipal-buildings

National Best Practice:
Chicago Neighborhood Energy Challenge [Chicago, IL]
http://chicagoneighborhoodenergychallenge.com/

8. RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION & WEATHERIZATION

Regional Best Practice:
http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/family_home/home/la_house/about_lahouse/index.htm
LaHouse Center [Louisiana State University]

National Best Practice:
Rebuilding Together [Nationwide Affiliates]
http://rebuildingtogether.org/

9. CREATE PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS OR EXHIBITS

Local Best Practice:
"Be the Y! in Lafayette" [Parc Sans Souci, Lafayette]
http://www.downtownlafayette.org/explore/parc-sans-souci

Regional Best Practice:
Before I Die [New Orleans, LA]
http://candychang.com/before-i-die-in-nola/

10. CREATE A GATEWAY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Local Best Practice:
Lafayette Gateway [Lafayette, LA]

Regional Best Practice:
Mid-City Neighborhood Gateways [New Orleans]
http://mcno.org/documents/lambert-plus-addendum.pdf

National Best Practice:
North Hollywood Gateway [Los Angeles, CA]
http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/07/artist-peter-shires-gateway-to-north-hollywood.html

11. PAINT INTERSECTIONS OR BUILDING MURALS

Local Best Practice:
Downtown Lafayette Murals [Lafayette, LA]

Regional Best Practice:
Utility Box Program [New Orleans, LA]
http://www.cvunola.org/#!services/c1pna

National Best Practice:
Sunnyside Piazza [Portland, OR]
http://www.pps.org/great_public_spaces/one?public_place_id=504

12. FOSTER ACTIVITY WITH A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY OR PUBLIC FURNITURE

Local Best Practice:
Little Free Library #10988
[Lafayette, LA]

Regional Best Practice:
Little Free Library #12863 [Mamou, LA]
https://www.pinterest.com/ltlfreelibrary/libraries-for-kids/

National Best Practice:
OPENKitch'N Culture Crawl [Washington, D.C.]
http://rebargroup.org/doxa/page/2/
http://www.artplaceamerica.org/

13. INSTALL A PARKLET DOWNTOWN

Local Best Practice:
Jefferson Street Parklet [Downtown Lafayette, LA]

Regional Best Practice:
South Market District Parklet [New Orleans, LA]
https://www.nola.gov/getattachment/City-Planning/Calendar/2014/Sep/Design-Advisory-Committee-%28DAC%29/9-3-2014-10-00-00-AM/SoMa-Parklet-revision-90314.pdf/

National Best Practice:
Chromer Building Parklet [Seattle, WA]
http://www.seattlemag.com/article/new-parklet-opened-downtown

14. HOST A BETTER BLOCK OR BLOCK PARTY

Local Best Practice:
Better Block Events
http://betterblock.org/how-to-build-a-better-block/

15. START A BIKE SHARE OR BIKE HUB – INSTALL A BIKE PARKING RACK

Local Best Practice:
Bike Lafayette [Lafayette, LA]

National Best Practice:
New Balance Hubway [Boston, MA]
http://www.thehubway.com

16. ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY GARDEN OR LOCAL FOOD INSTALLATION

Local Best Practice:
EarthShare Gardens [Scott, LA]
http://earthsharegardens.org/

Regional Best Practice:
Grow Dat Youth Farm [New Orleans, LA]
http://growdatyouthfarm.org/

17. START OR ENHANCE A NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM – CPTED

Regional Best Practice:
Hollygrove SafeGrowth [New Orleans, LA]

SafeAlex [Alexandria, LA]
http://www.cityofalexandriala.com/safealex
http://www.cityofalexandriala.com/sites/default/files/crime_prevention_.pdf

18. CONDUCT A WALKABILITY AUDIT FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Local Best Practice:
Walkability Audit [Lafayette, LA]

National Best Practice:
Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School [Rock Hill, South Carolina]
http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/data-central/success-stories/rockhill-south-carolina-engaging-older-students-helps-increase-number-c

19. DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOUR & MARKET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Local Best Practice:
Lafayette Azalea Trail [Lafayette, LA]
http://www.lafayettetravel.com/play/festivalsevents/lafayette-azalea-trail

National Best Practice:
Walkable Tigard [Tigard, OR]
https://tigardwalks.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/communications-plan-web.pdf

20. ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY TOOL LIBRARY

Regional Best Practice:
Hands On New Orleans Tool Lending Library [New Orleans, LA]
http://handsonnola.force.com/HONO_tools

National Best Practice:
West Philly Tool Library [Philadelphia, PA]
http://http://westphillytools.org/

A03. LAFAYETTE RECOMMENDED TREE SPECIES GUIDE

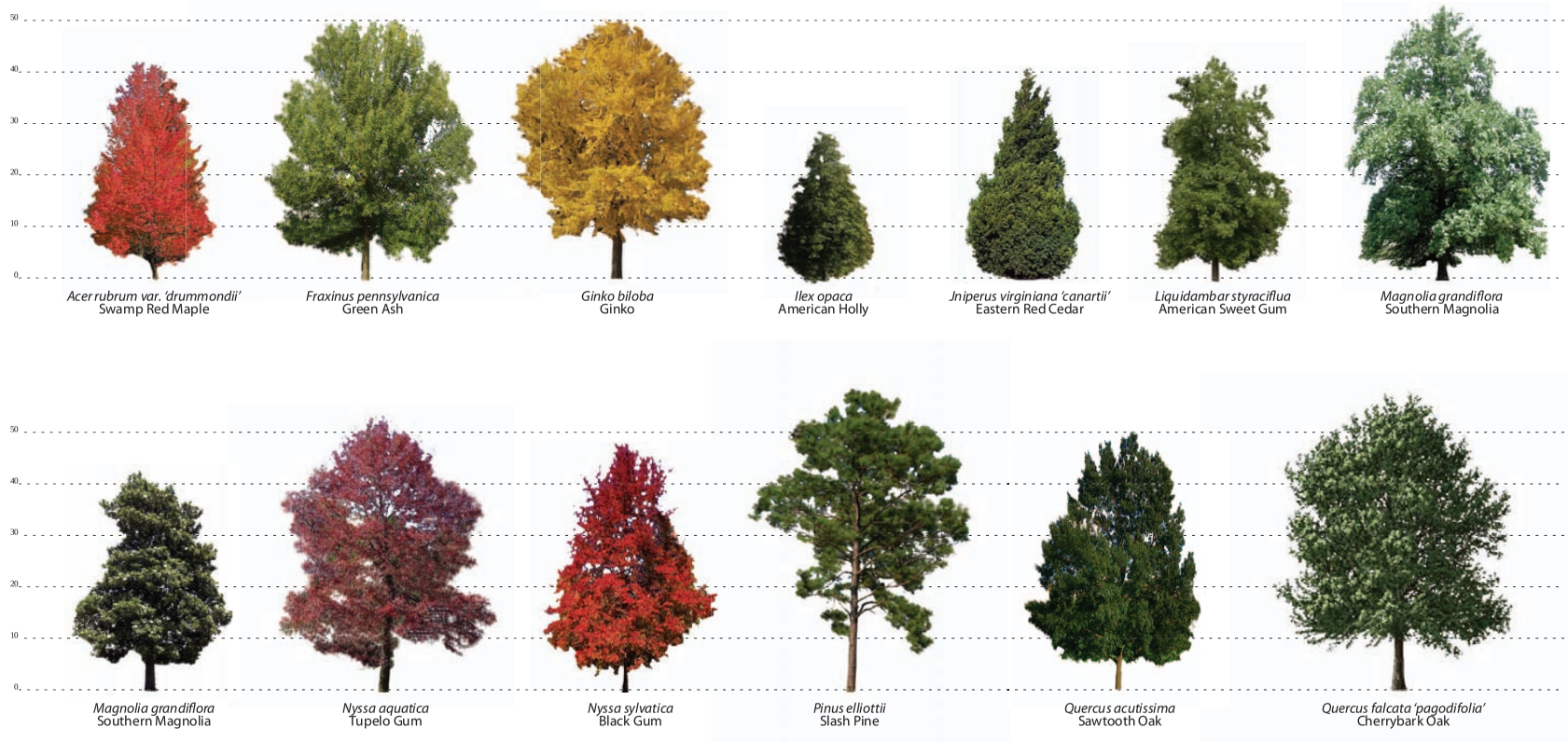
Recommended Tree Species:

Based on Appendix B of the January 2011, Zoning Ordinance for Lafayette Louisiana

Recommended Tree Species: Class A trees

Minimum 30 feet (Live Oaks 45 feet)
Maximum 50 feet

Lists of recommended tree and shrub species may be found in Appendix B of the Zoning Ordinance. Species may be added to or deleted from the list at the discretion of the Director of the Planning, Zoning, and Codes Department.



Recommended Tree Species: Class A trees

Minimum 30 feet (Live Oaks 45 feet)
Maximum 50 feet

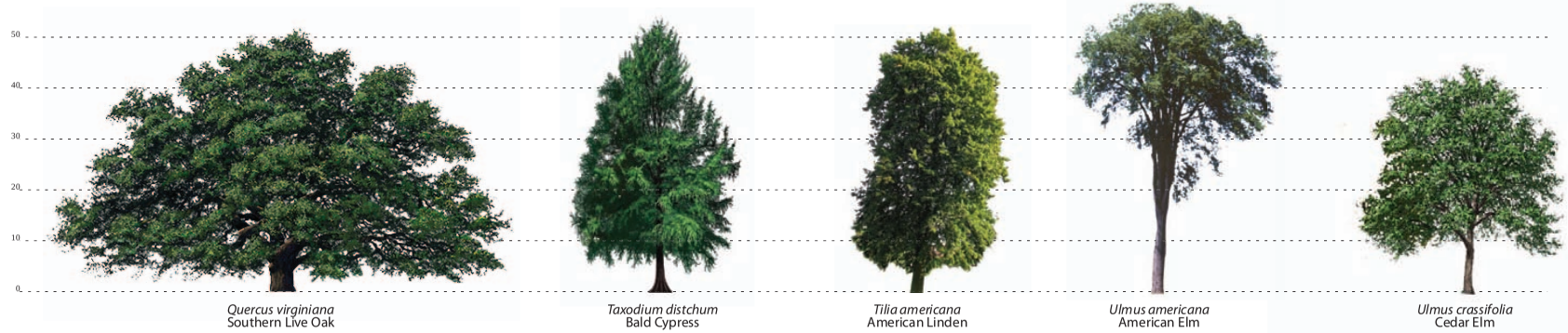
Quercus lyrata
Overcup Oak

Quercus michauxii
Cow Oak

Quercus nuttallii
Nuttall Oak

Quercus phellos
Willow Oak

Quercus shumardii
Shumard Oak



Quercus virginiana
Southern Live Oak

Taxodium distchum
Bald Cypress

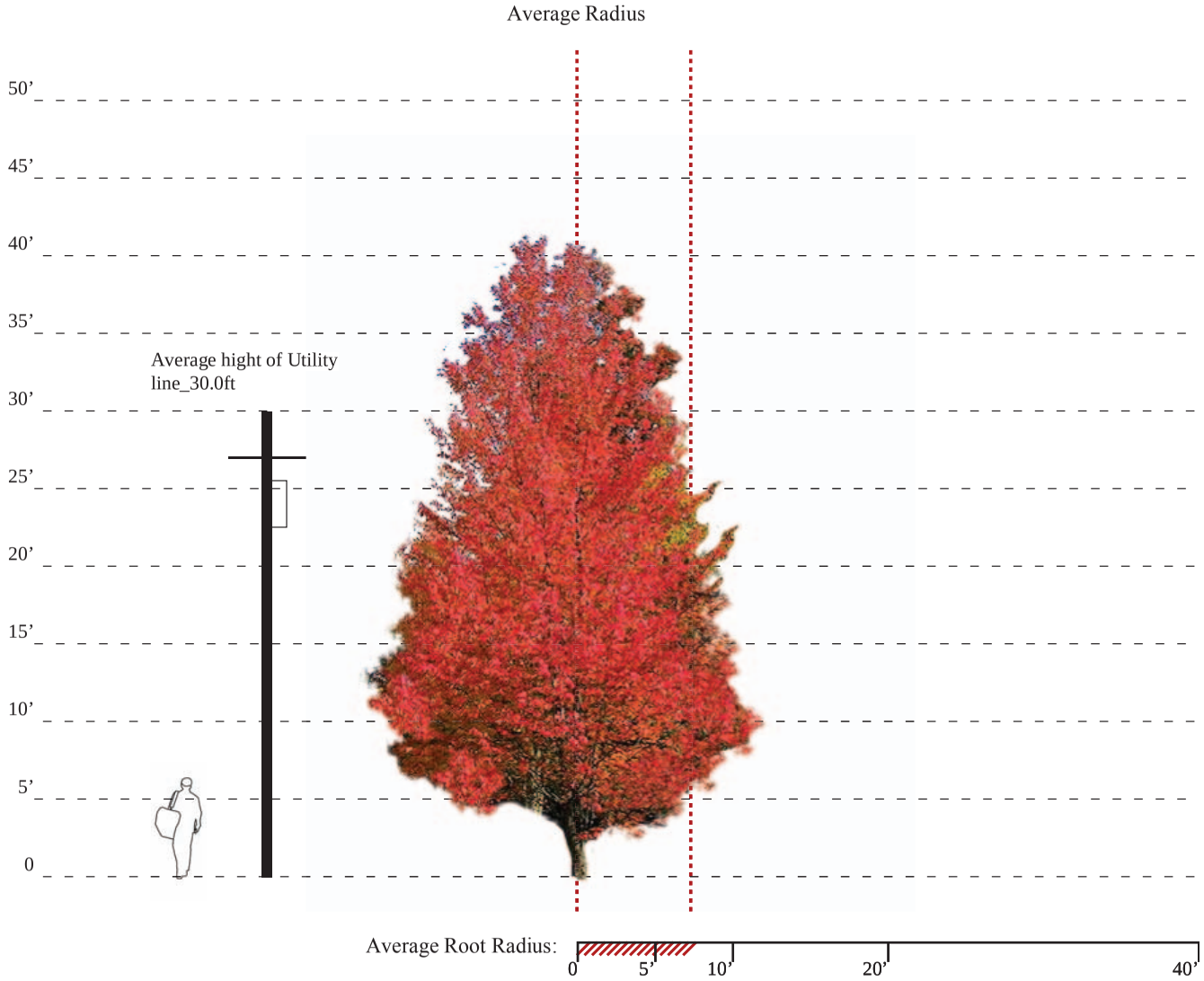
Tilia americana
American Linden

Ulmus americana
American Elm

Ulmus crassifolia
Cedar Elm

Class A

Acer rubrum var. 'drummondii'
Swamp Red Maple

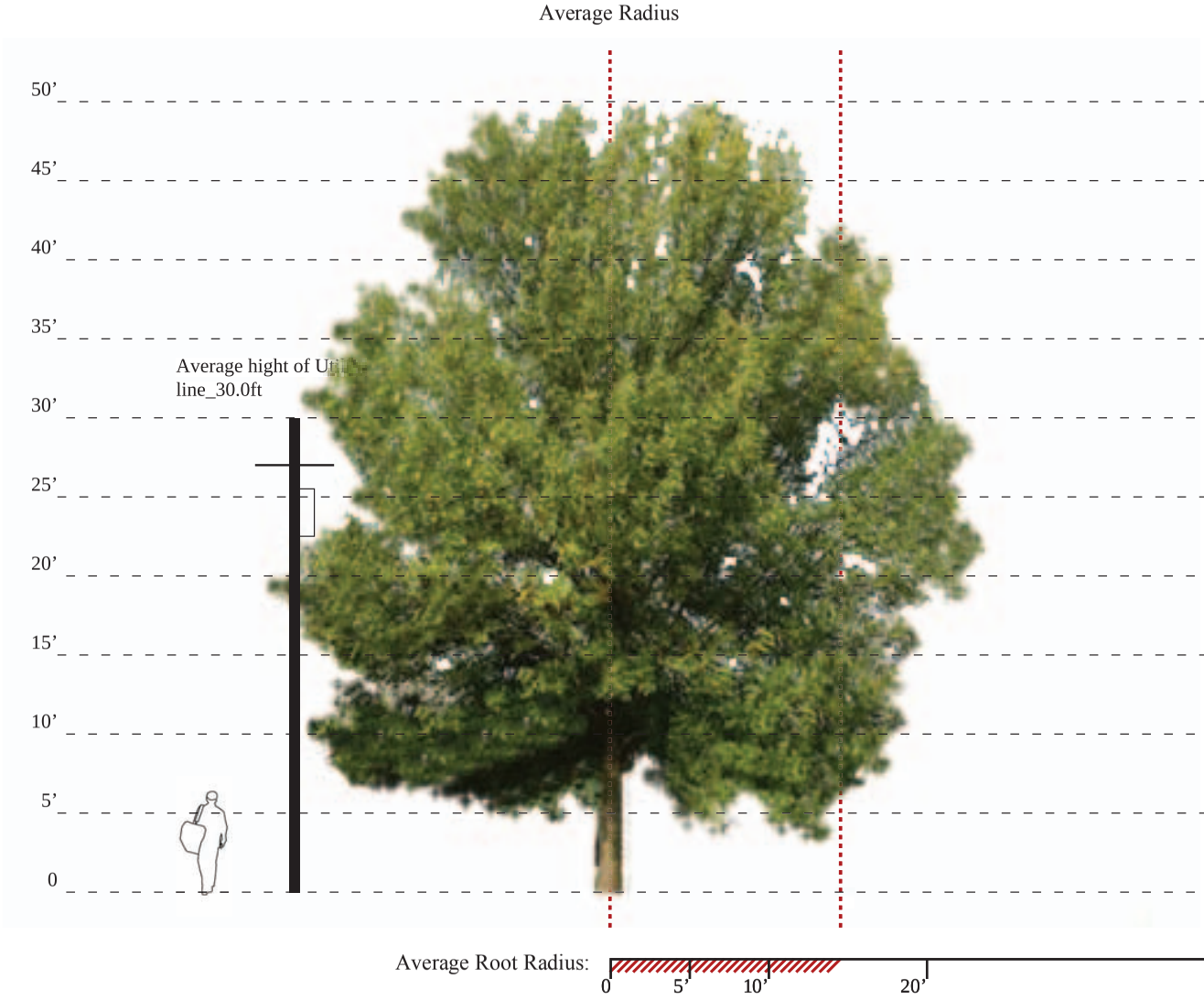


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class A

Fraxinus pennsylvanica
Green Ash

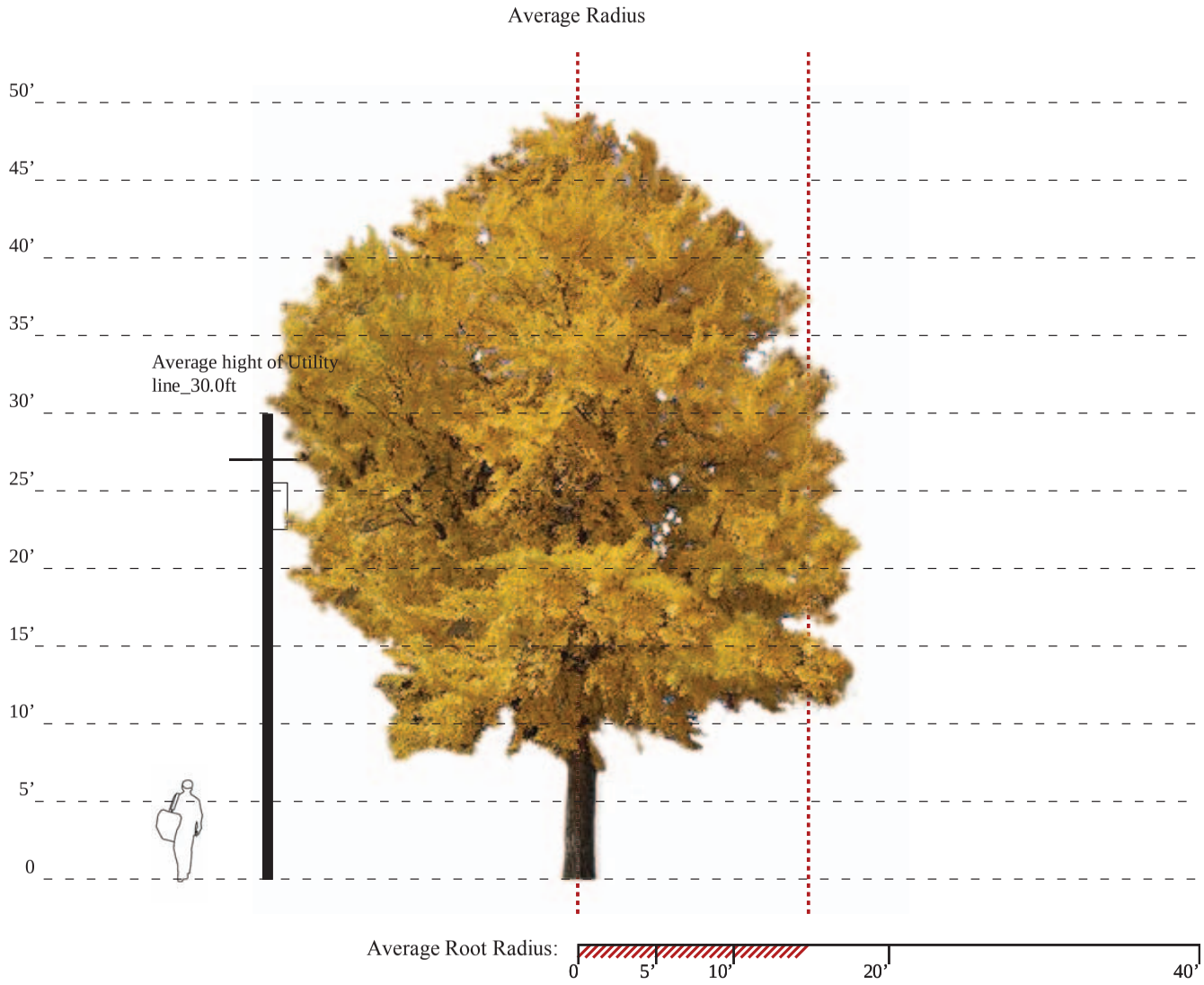


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class A

Ginkgo bilboa
Ginkgo



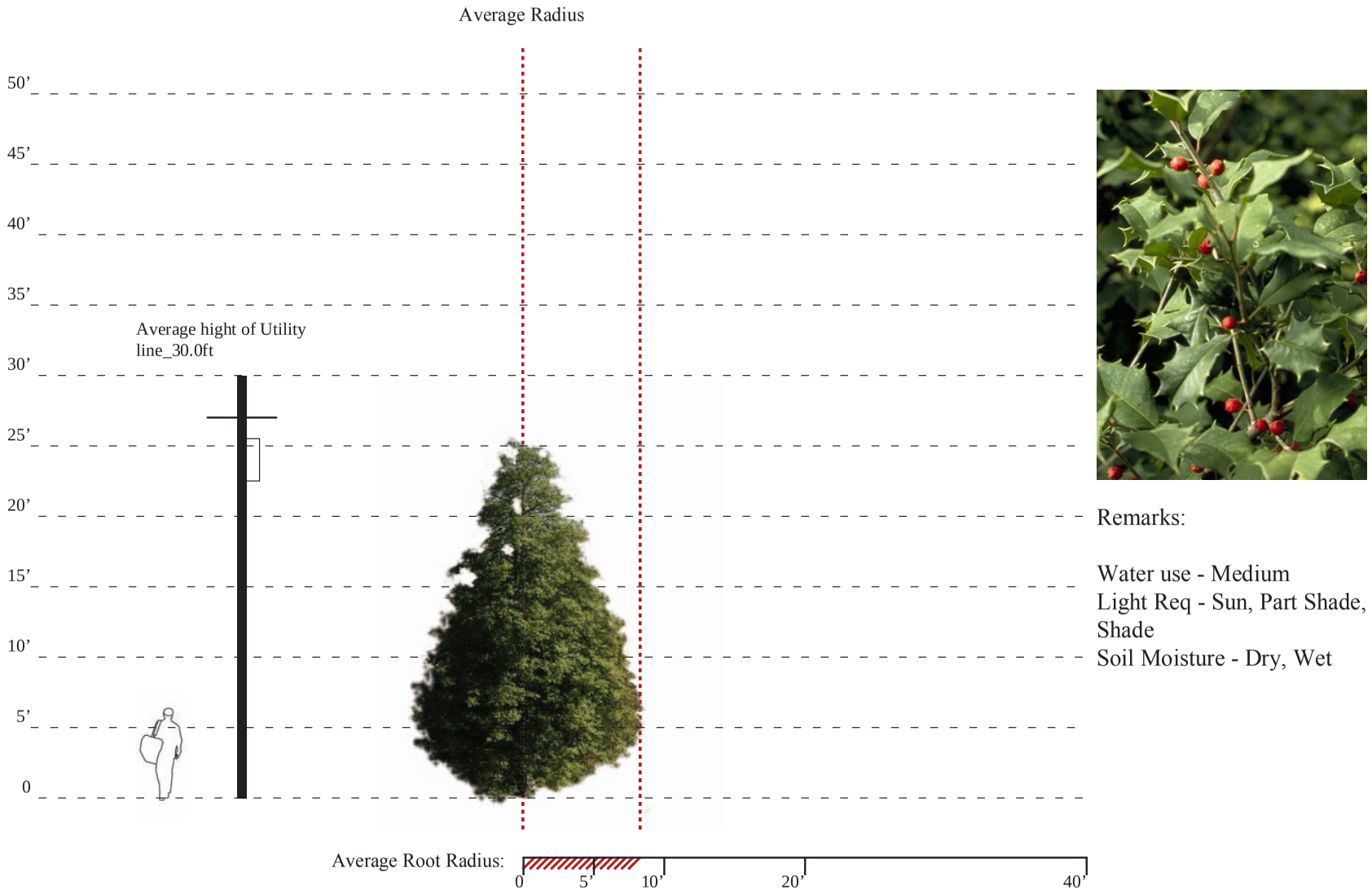
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class A

Ilex opaca
American Holly

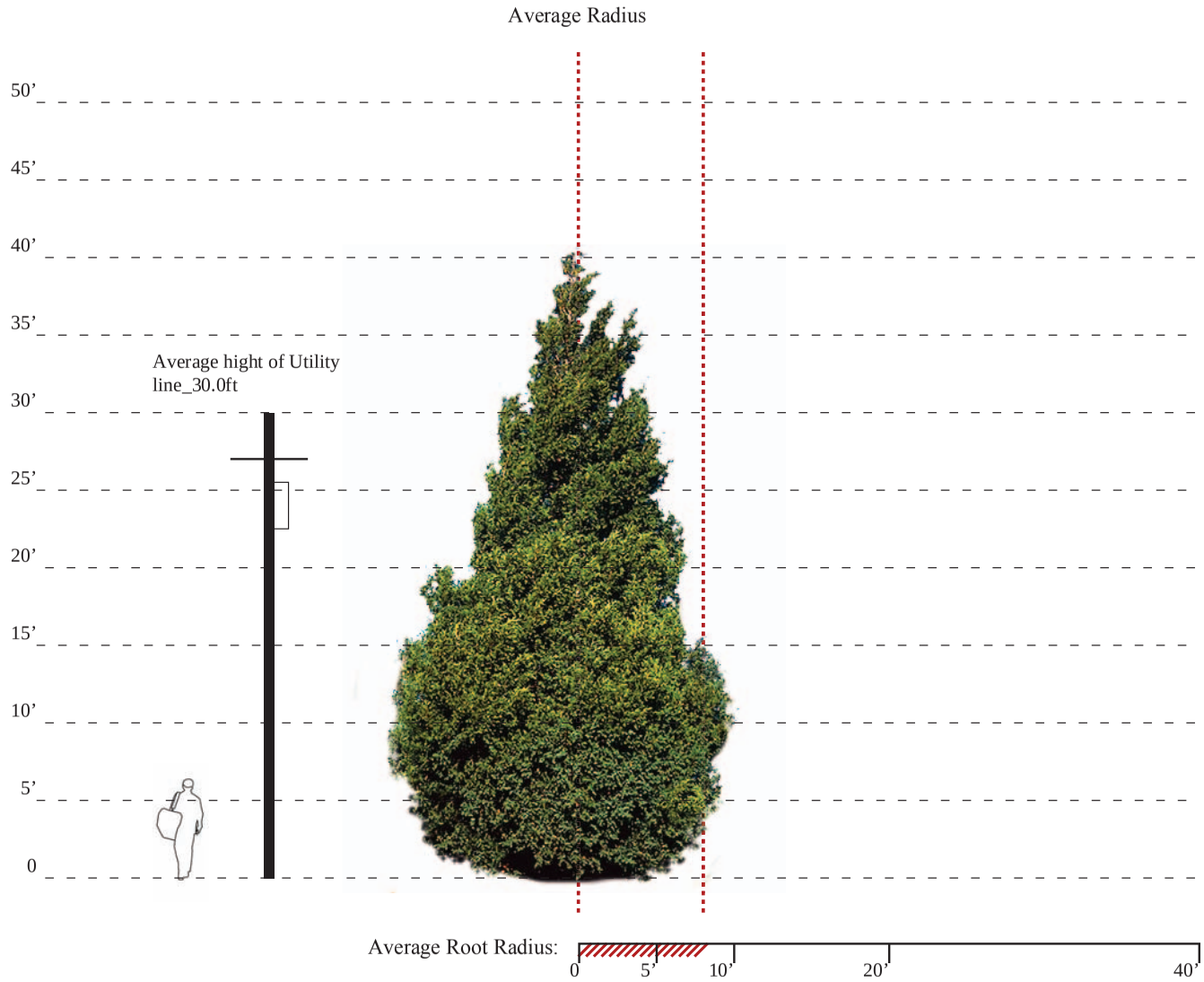


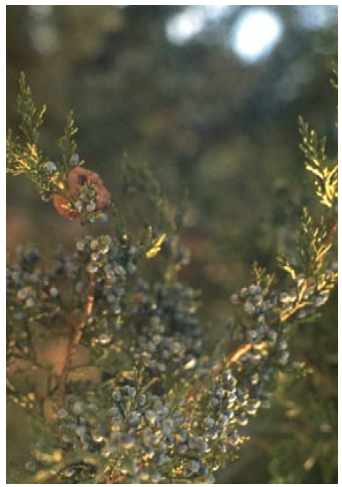
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Wet

Class A

Juniperus virginiana ‘canaertii’
Eastern Red Cedar





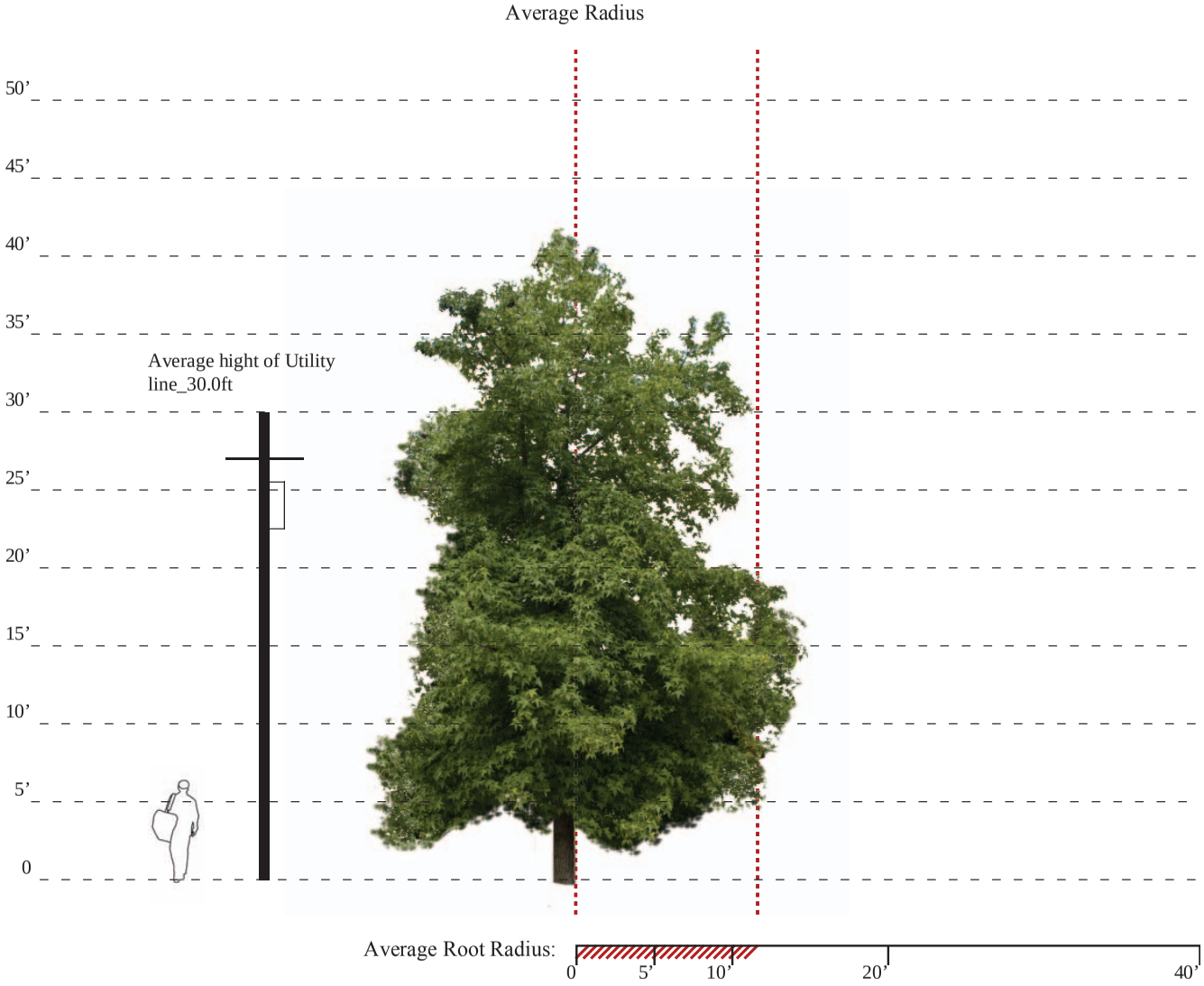
Remarks:

Water use - Low
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

PlanLafayette

Class A

Liquidambar styraciflua
American Sweet Gum



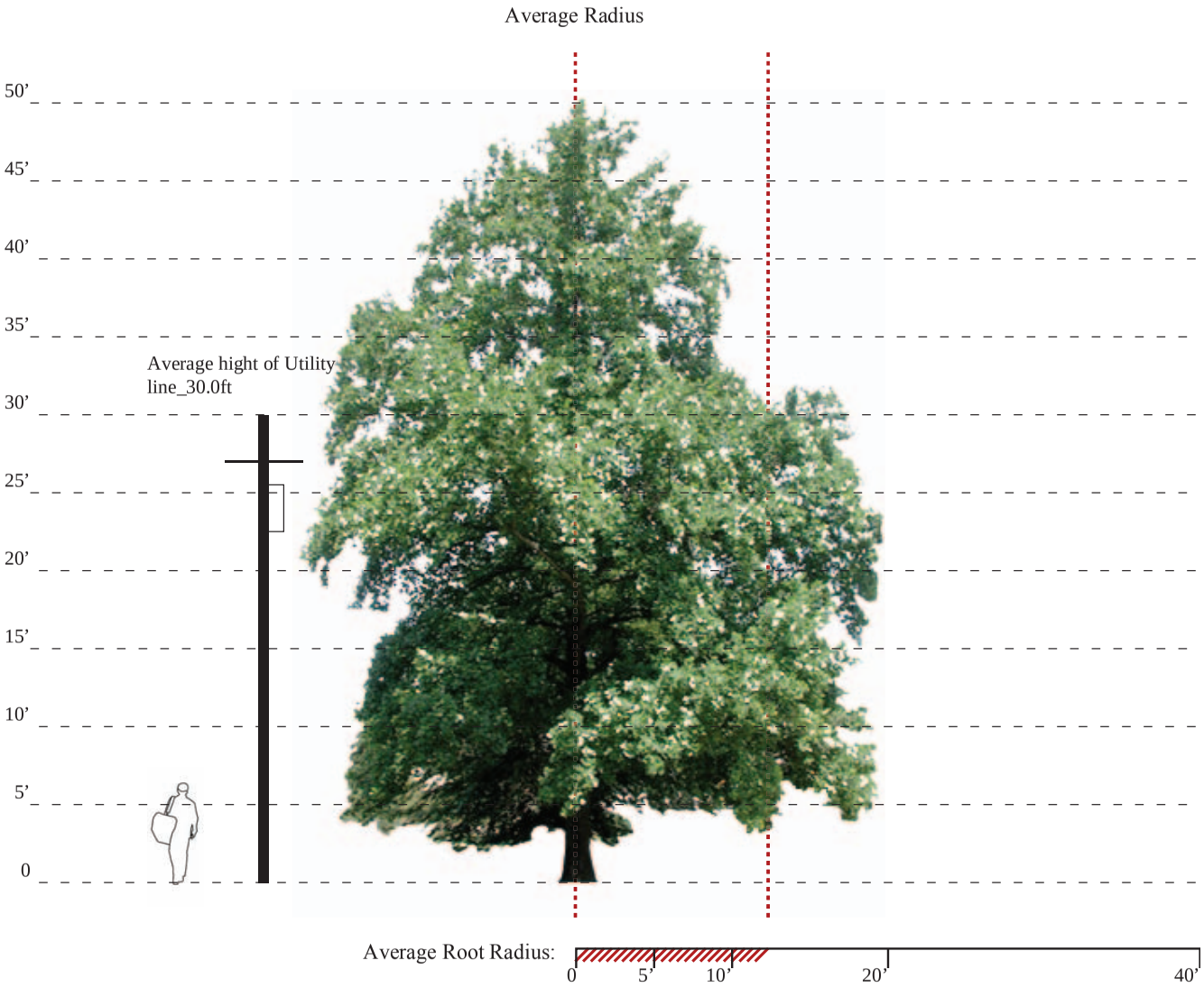
Remarks:

Water use - High
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class A

Liriodendron Tulipifera

Tuliptree

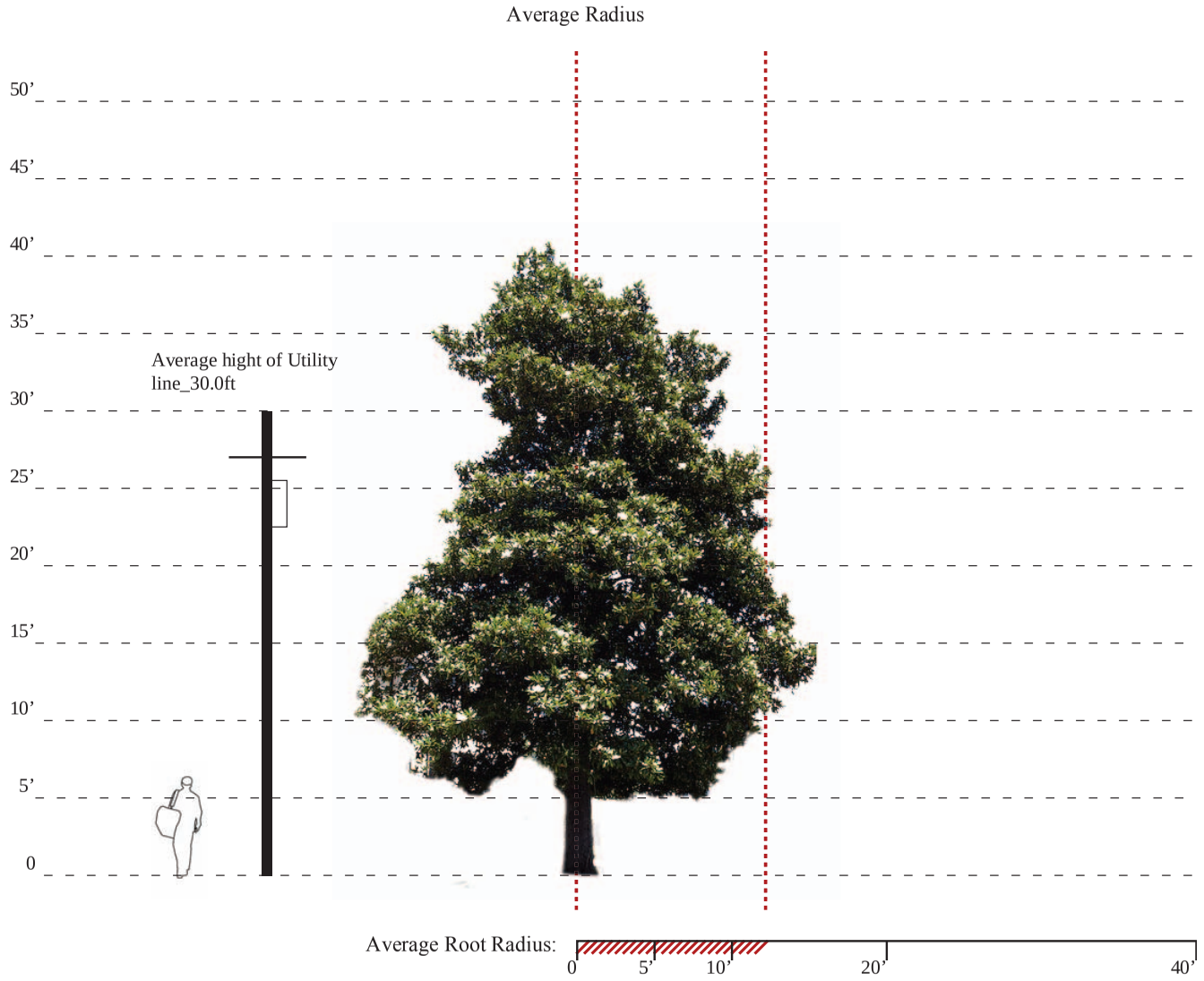


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class A

Magnolia grandiflora
Southern Magnolia

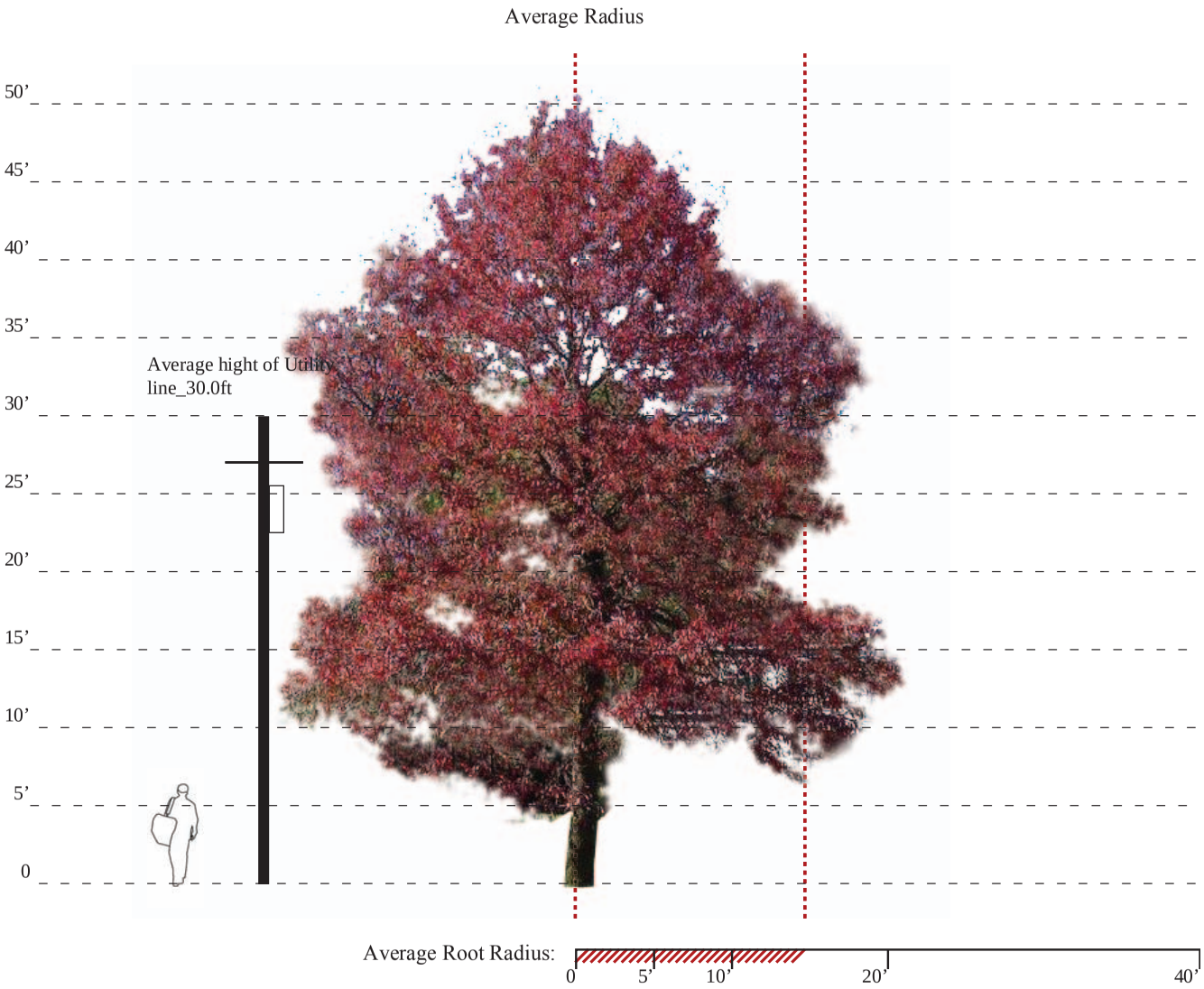


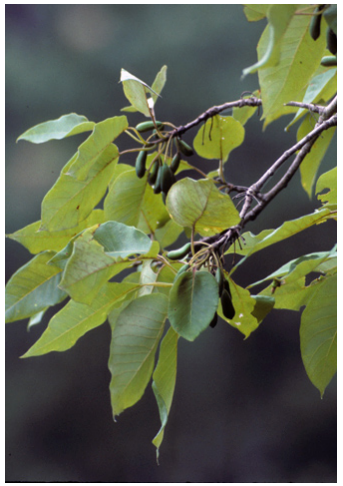
Remarks:

Water use - High
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

Class A

Nyssa aquatica
Tupelo Gum





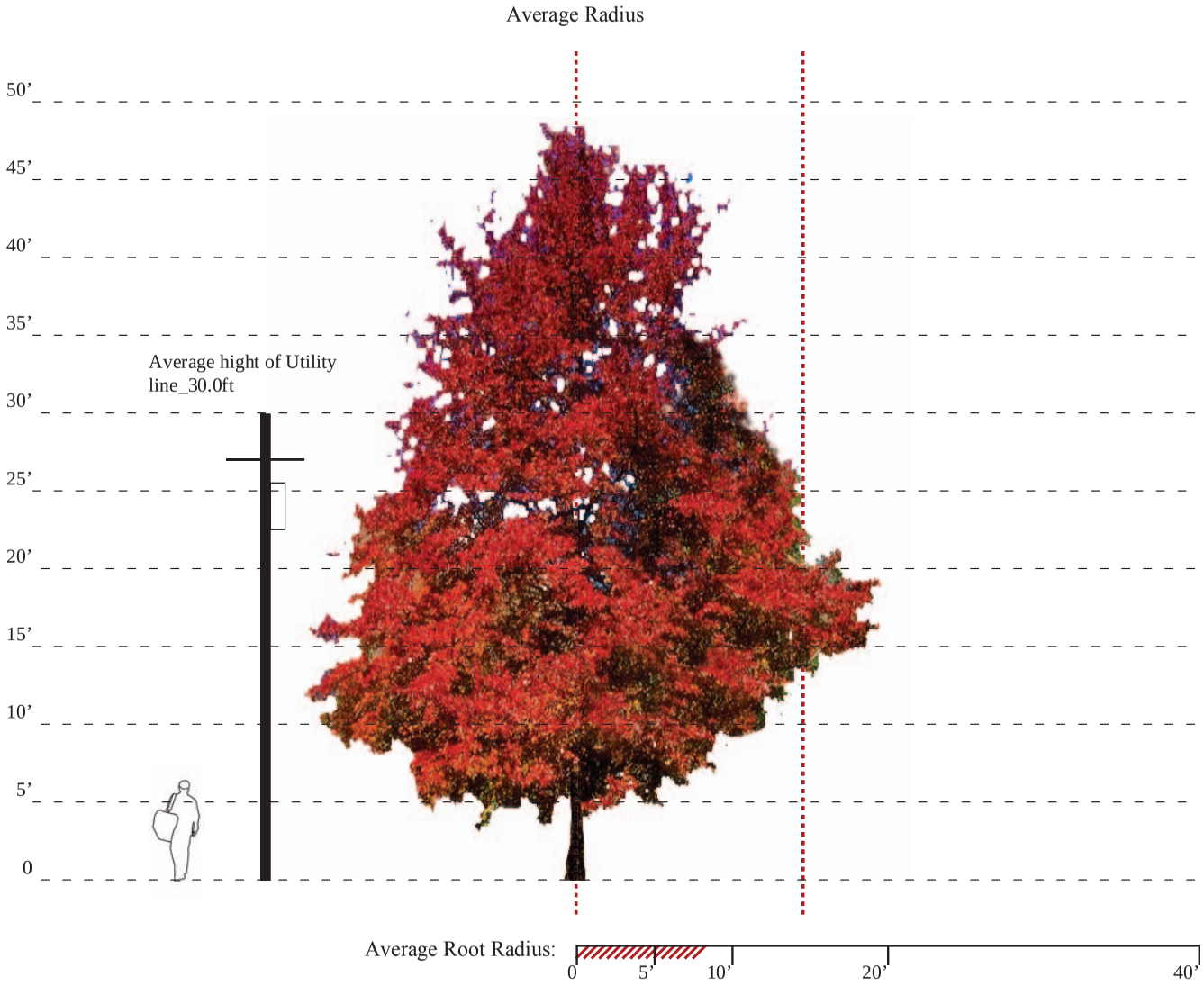
Remarks:

Water use - High
Light Req -Sun
Soil Moisture - Wet

PlanLafayette

Class A

Nyssa sylvatica
Black Gum

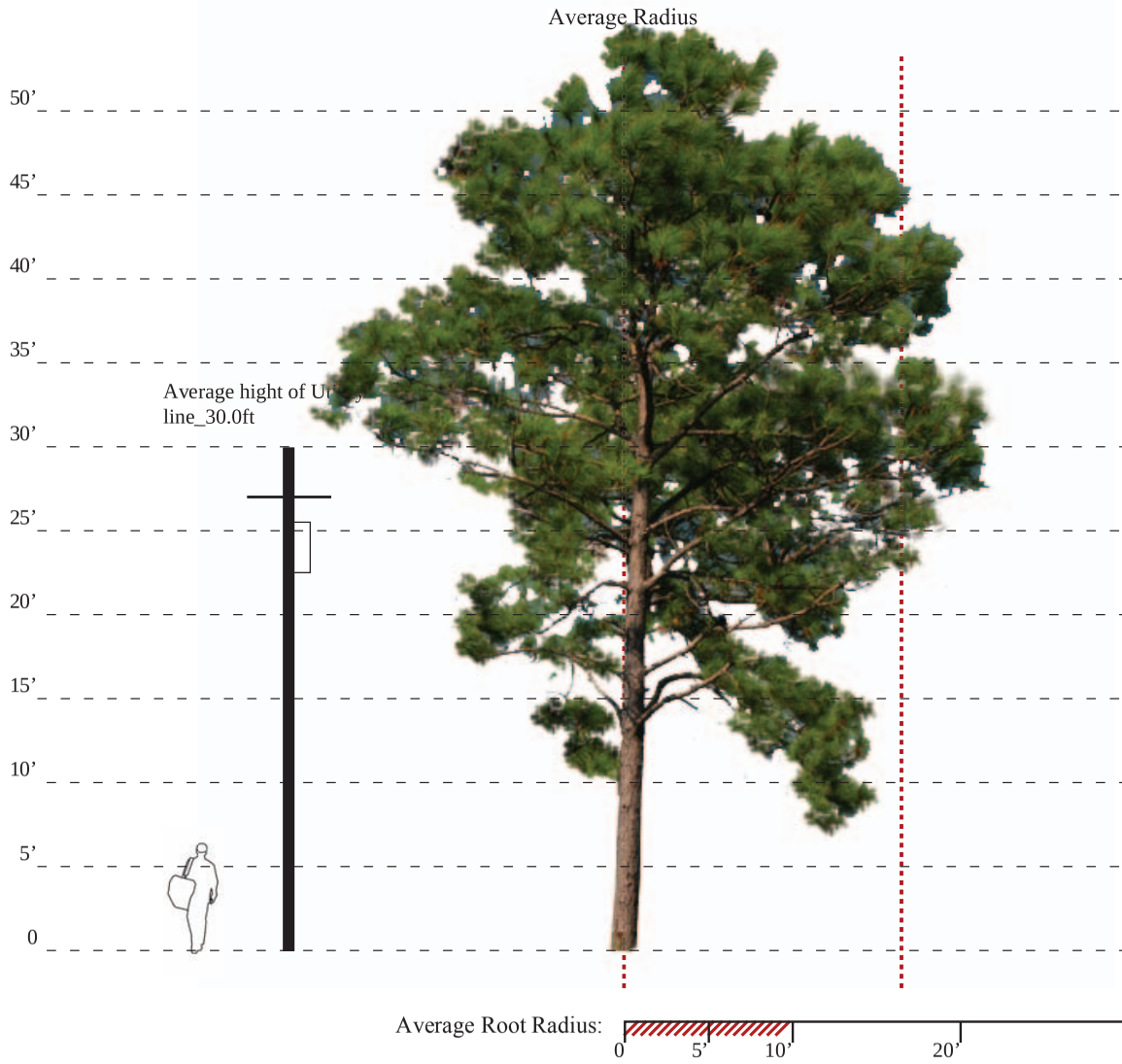


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class A

Pinus elliottii
Slash Pine



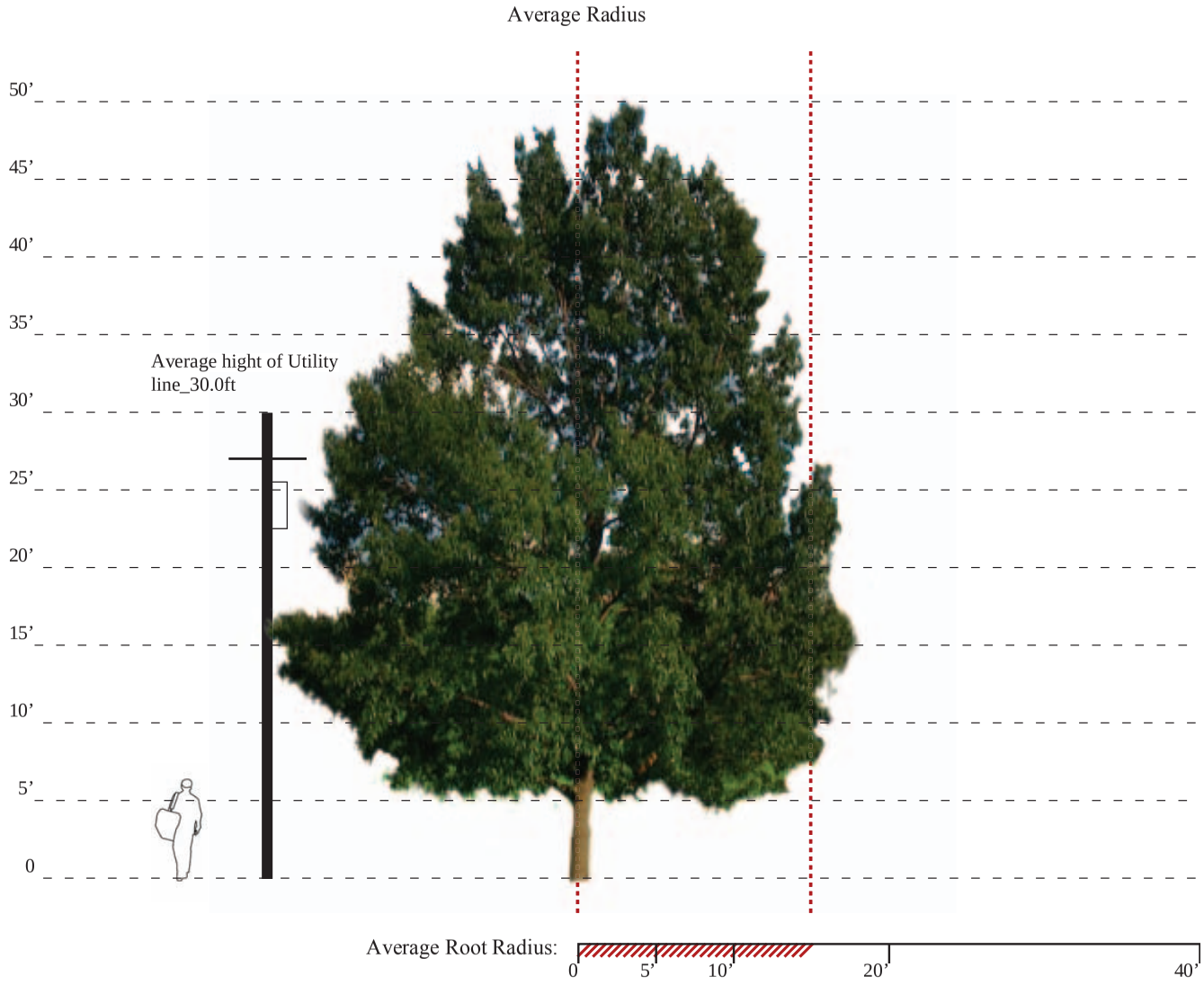
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

PlanLafayette

Class A

Quercus acutissima
Sawtooth Oak

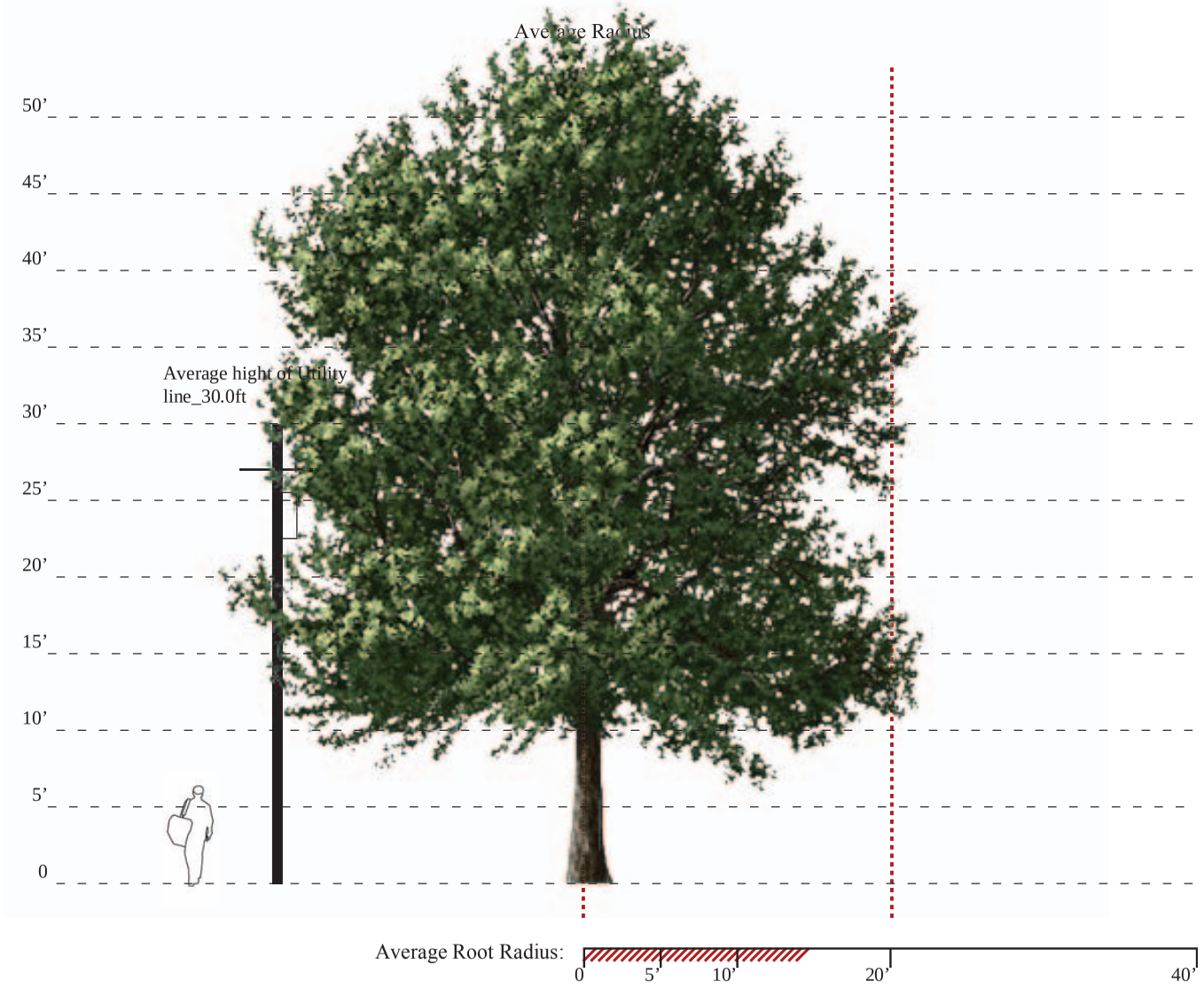


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

Class A

Quercus falcata ‘pagodifolia’
Cherrybark Oak



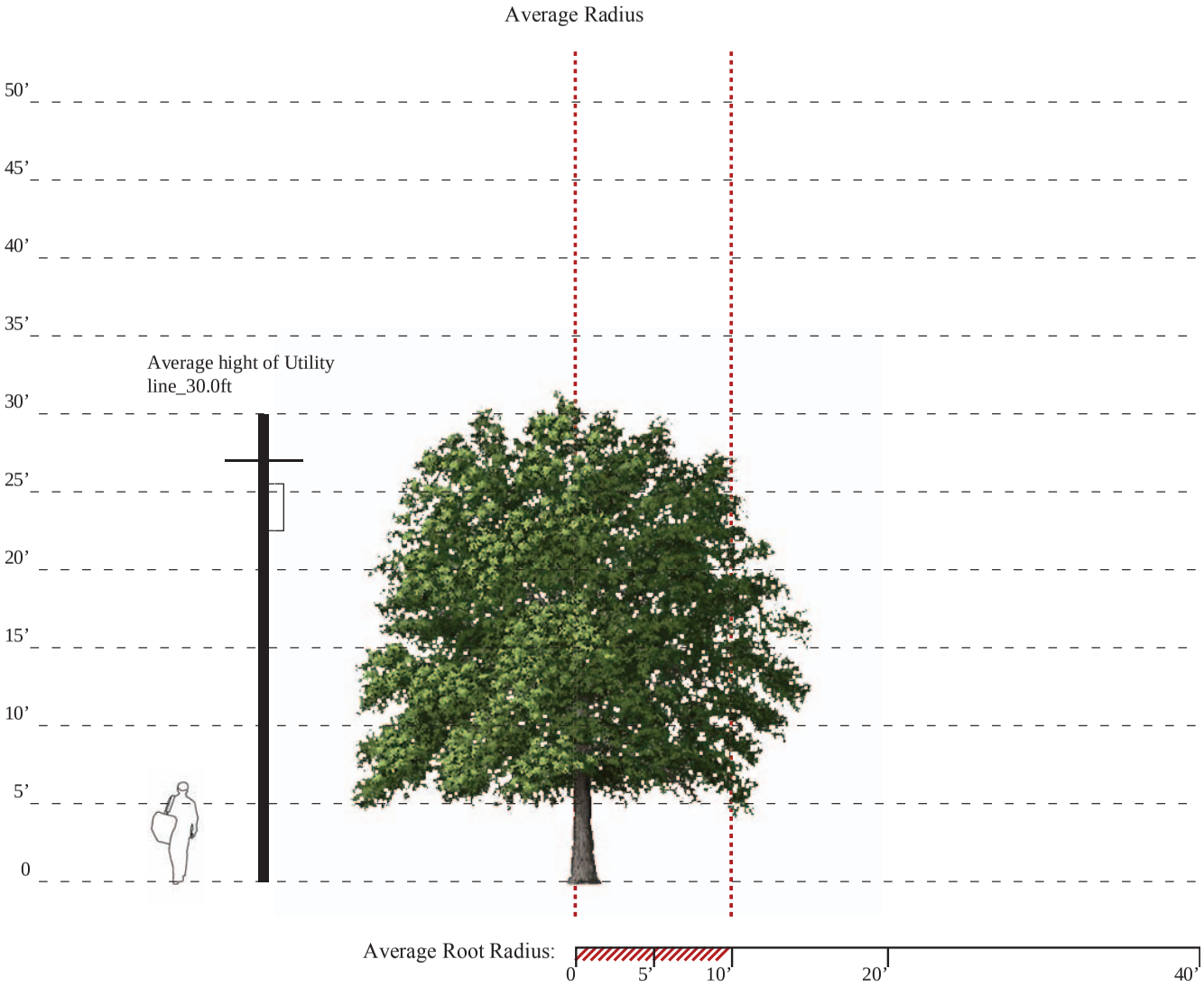
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

PlanLafayette

Class A

Quercus lyrata
Overcup Oak

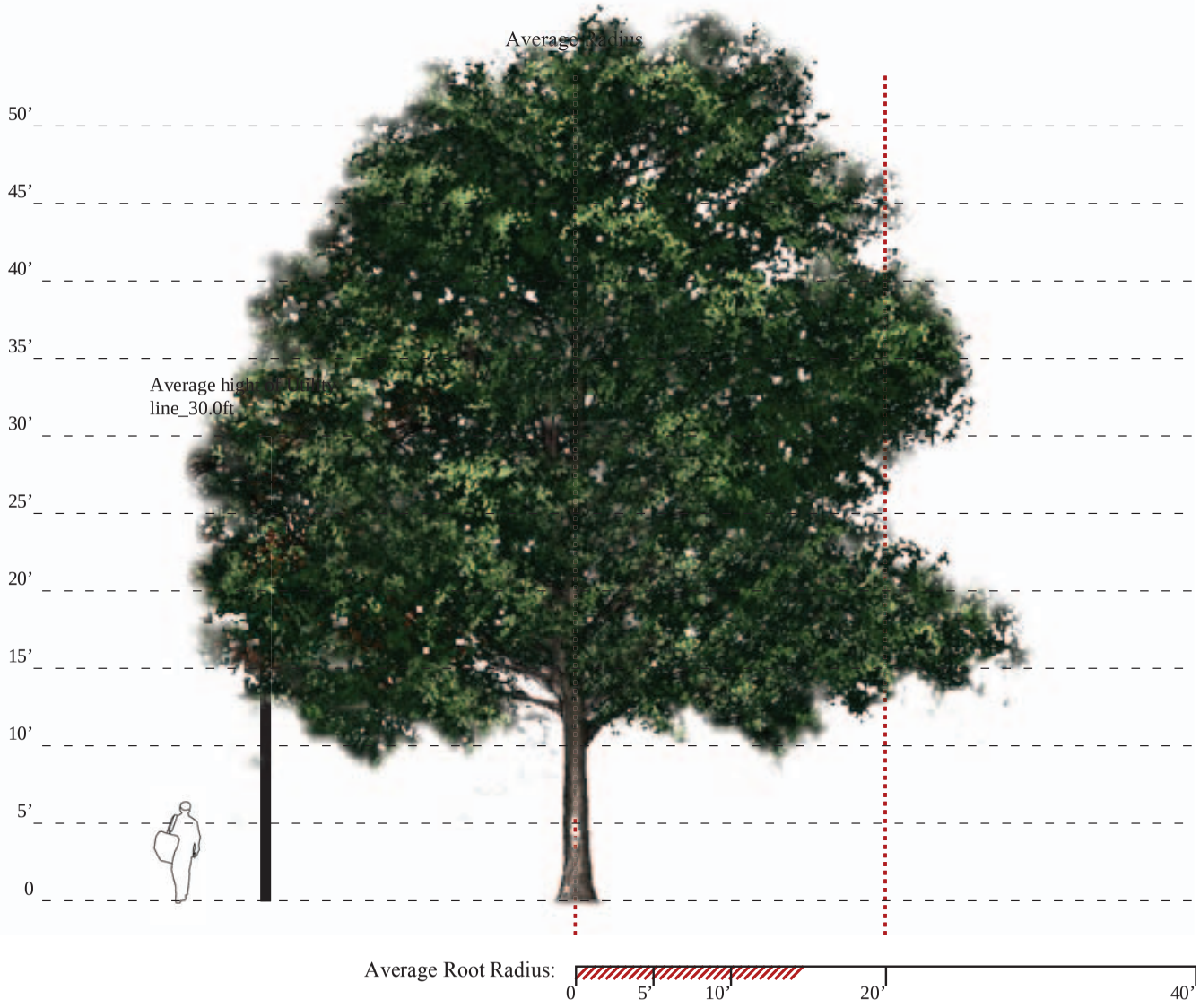


Remarks:

Water use - High
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

Class A

Quercus michauxii
Cow Oak



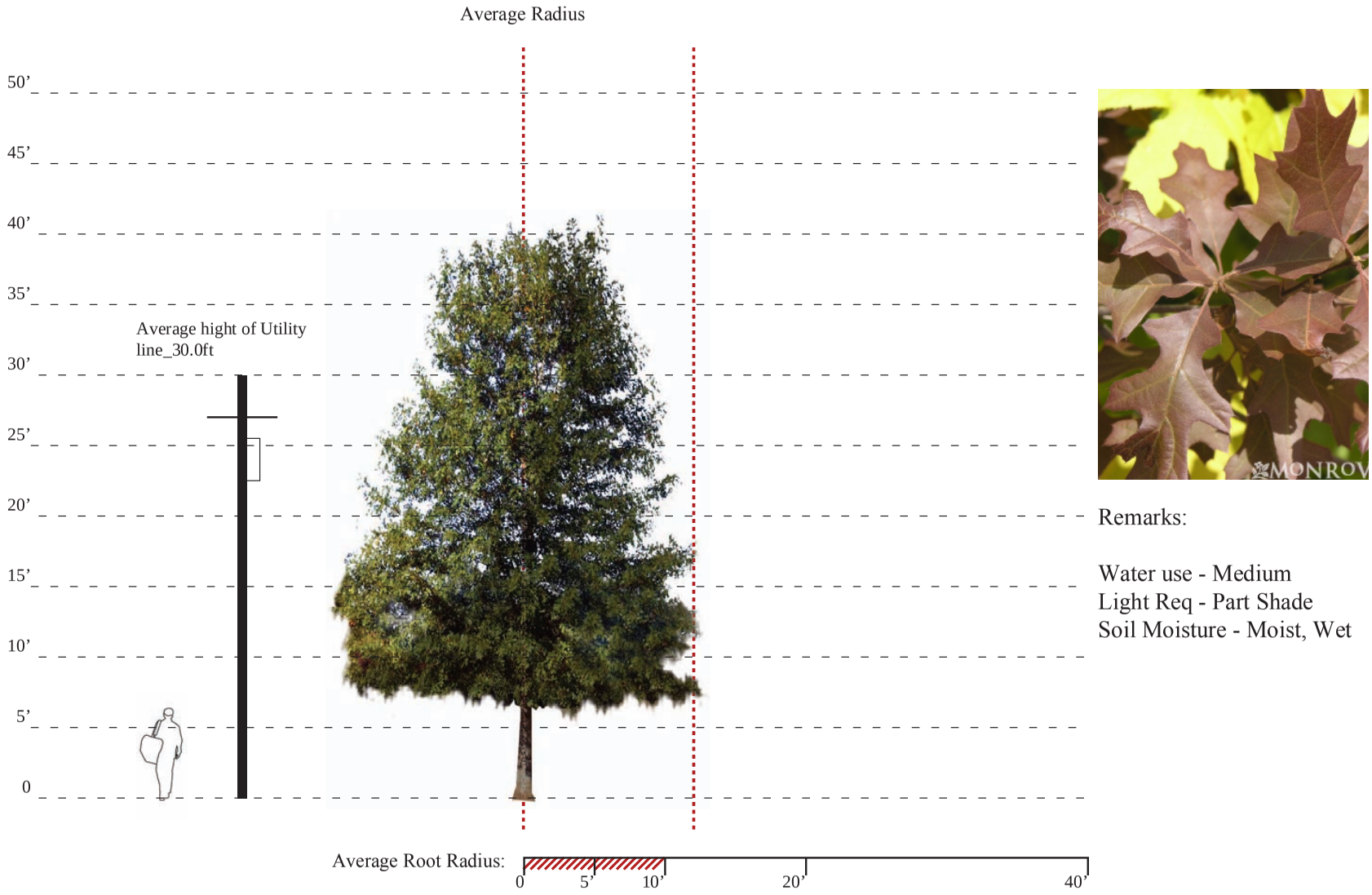
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

PlanLafayette

Class A

Quercus nuttallii
Nuttall Oak

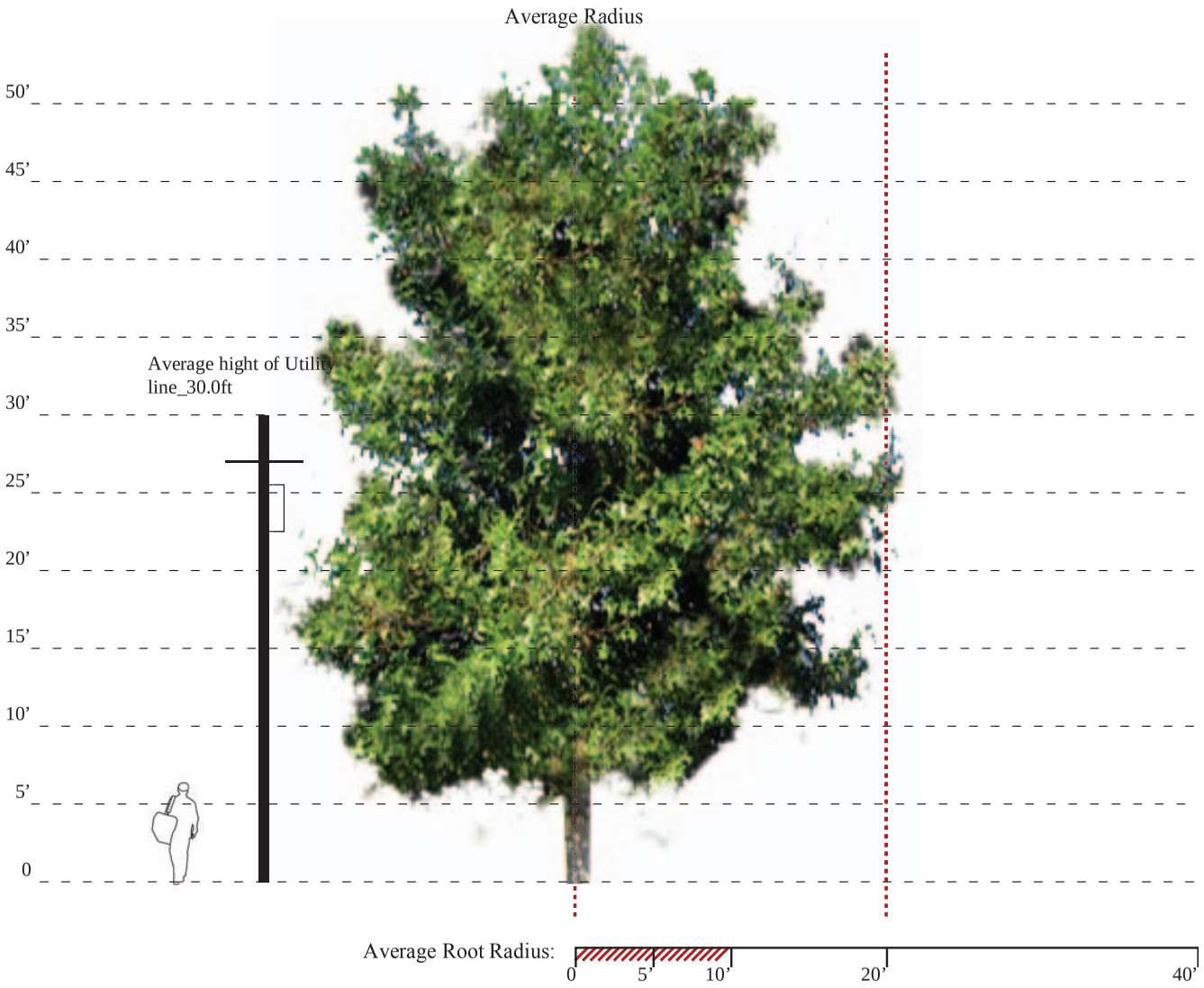


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class A

Quercus shumardii
Shumard Oak

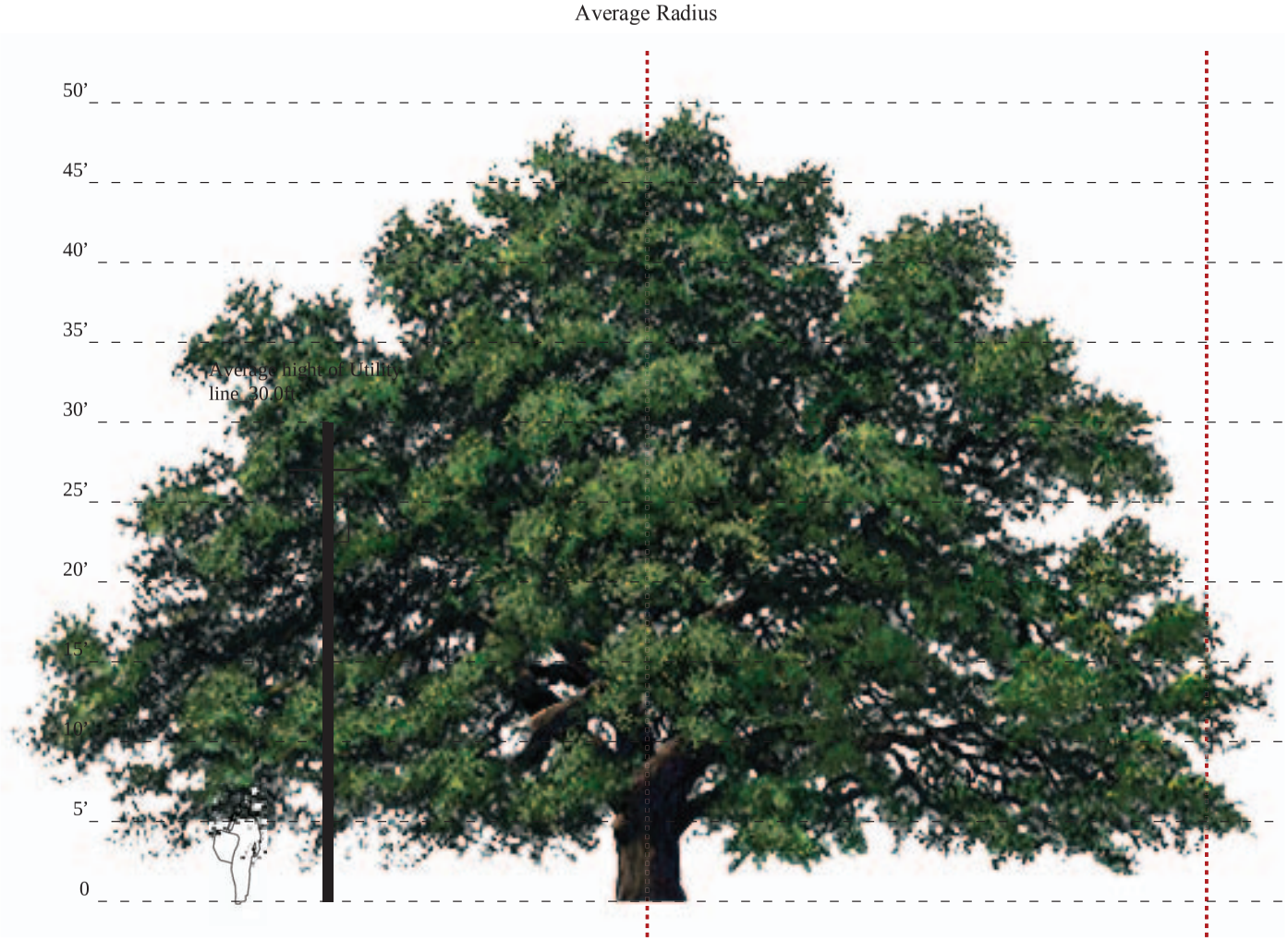


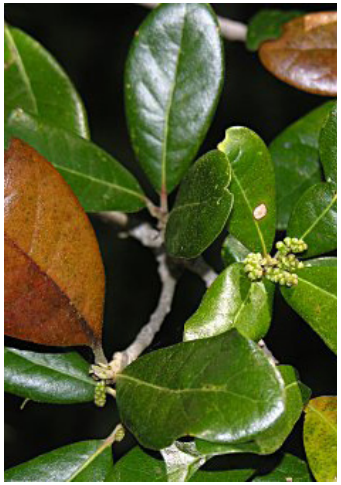
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

Class A

Quercus virginiana
Southern Live Oak



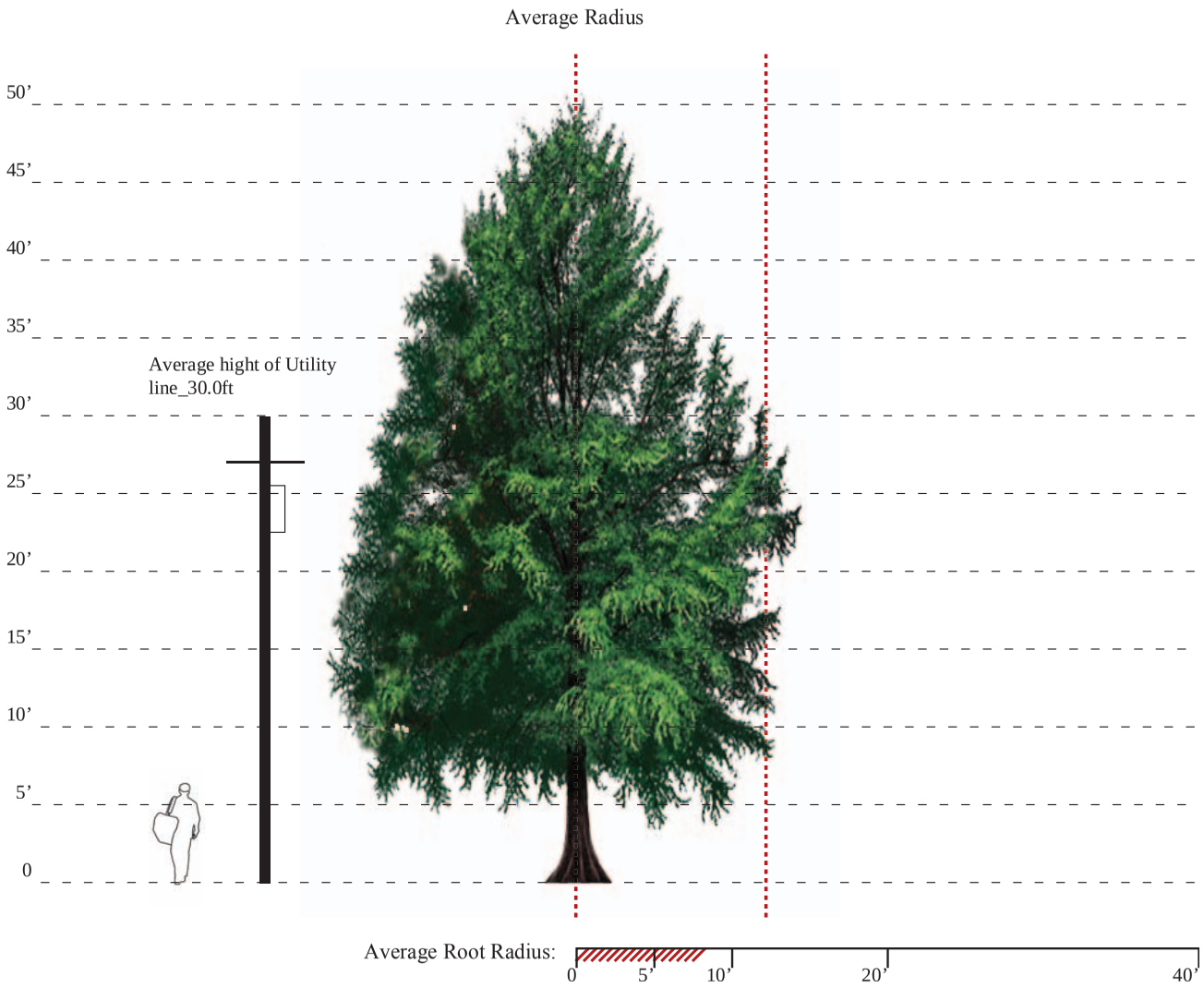


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class A

Taxodium distichum
Bald Cypress



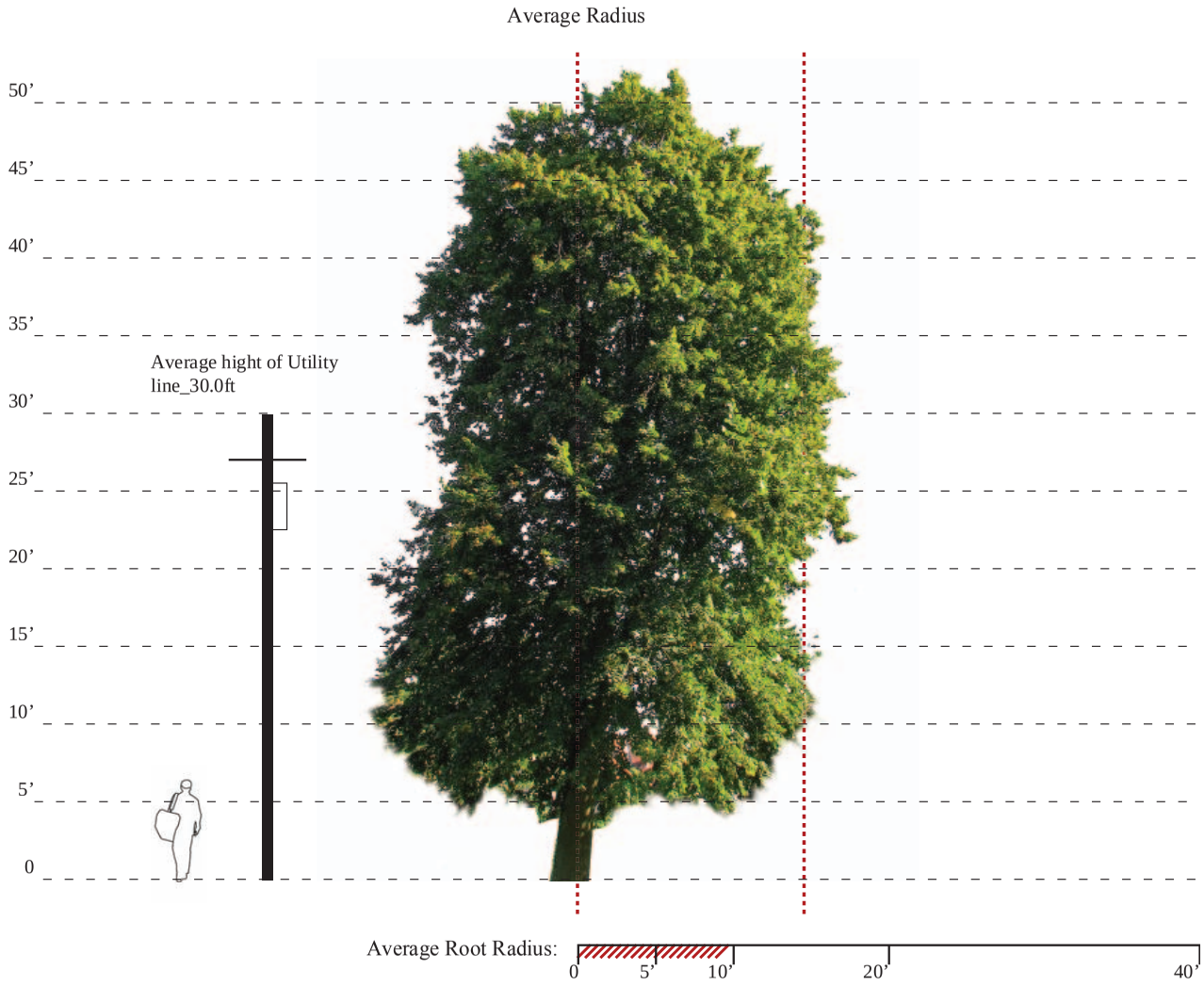
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

PlanLafayette

Class A

Tilia americana
American Linden

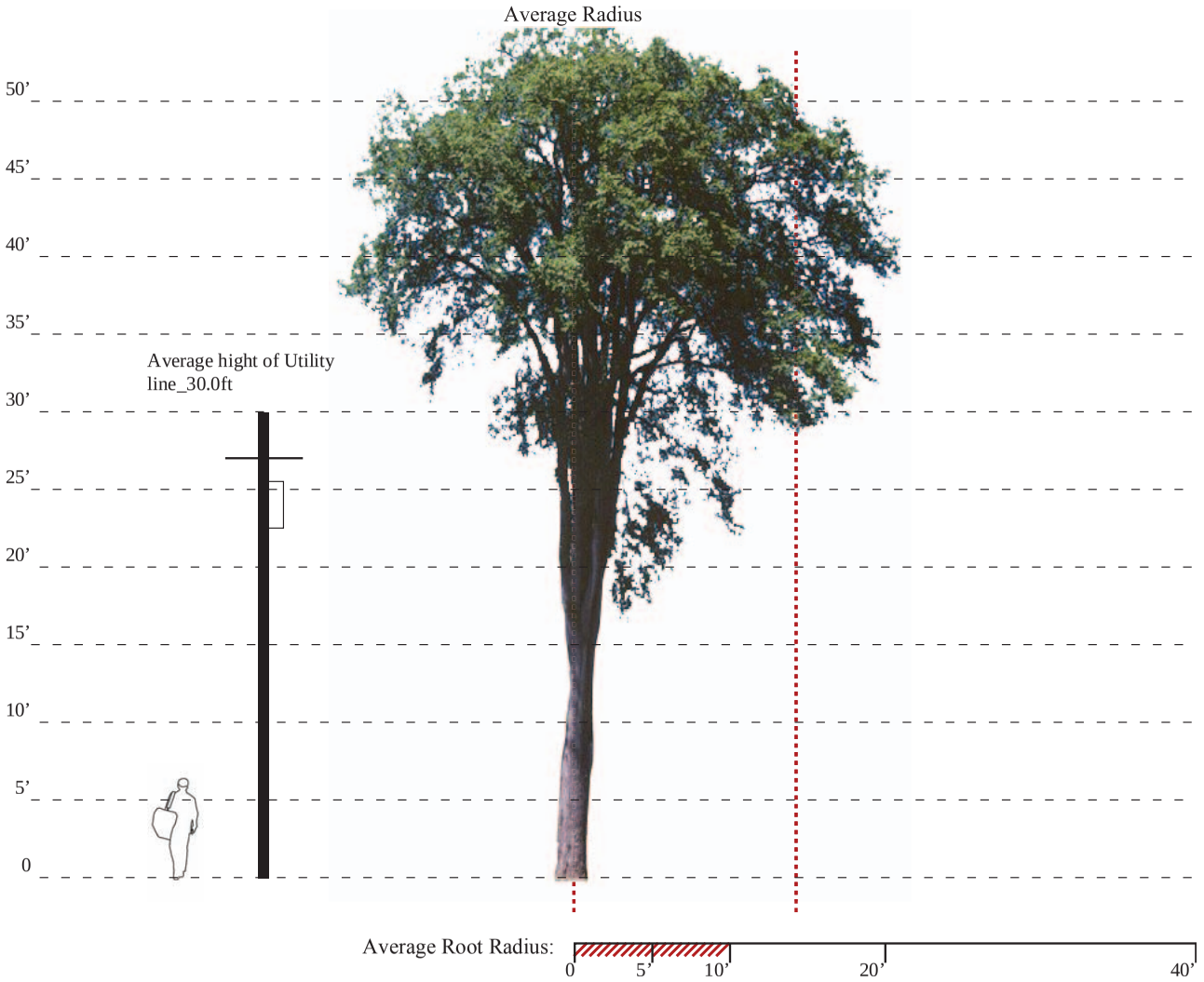


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

Class A

Ulmus americana
American Elm

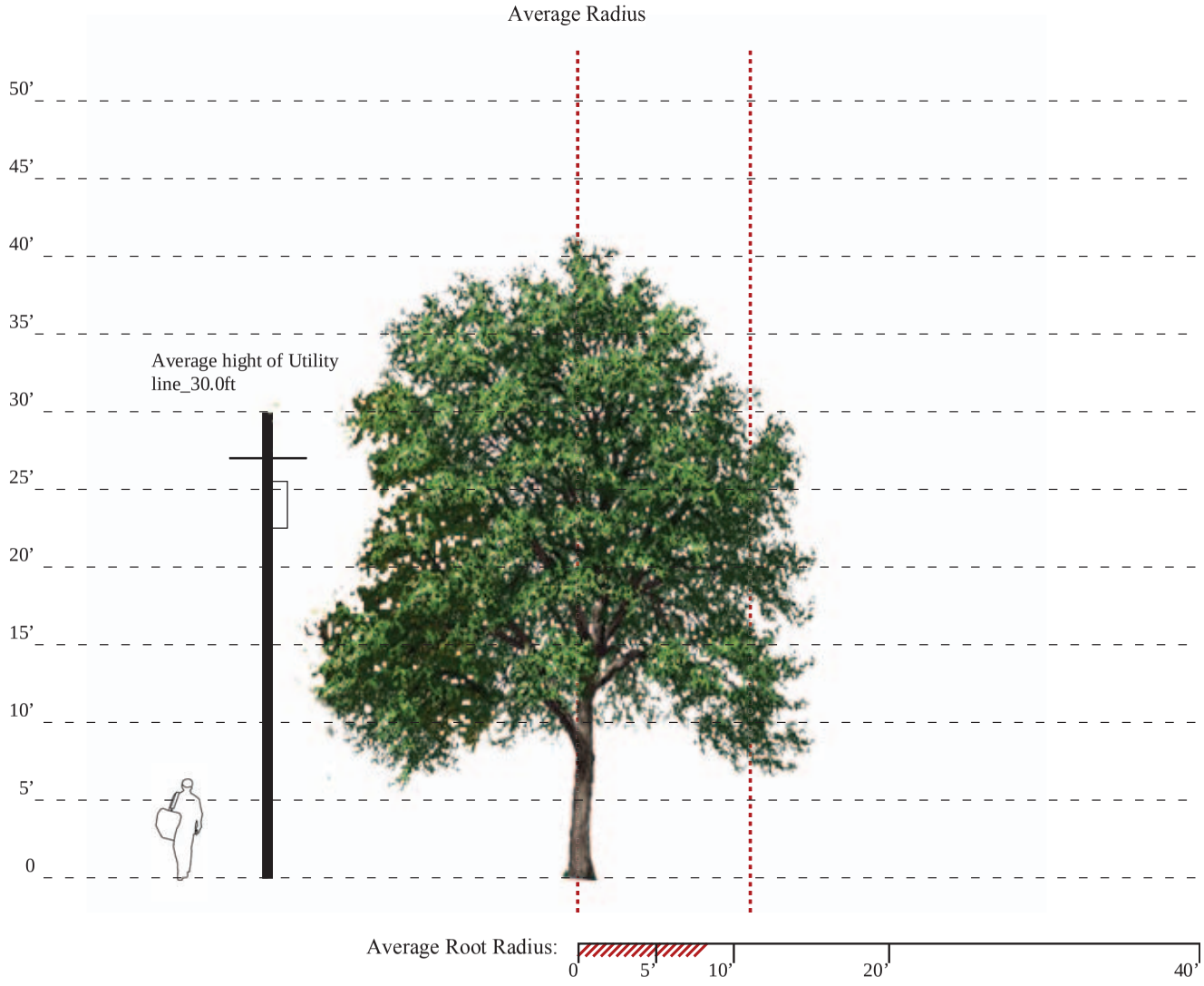


Remarks:

Water use -High
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class A

Ulmus crassifolia
Cedar Elm



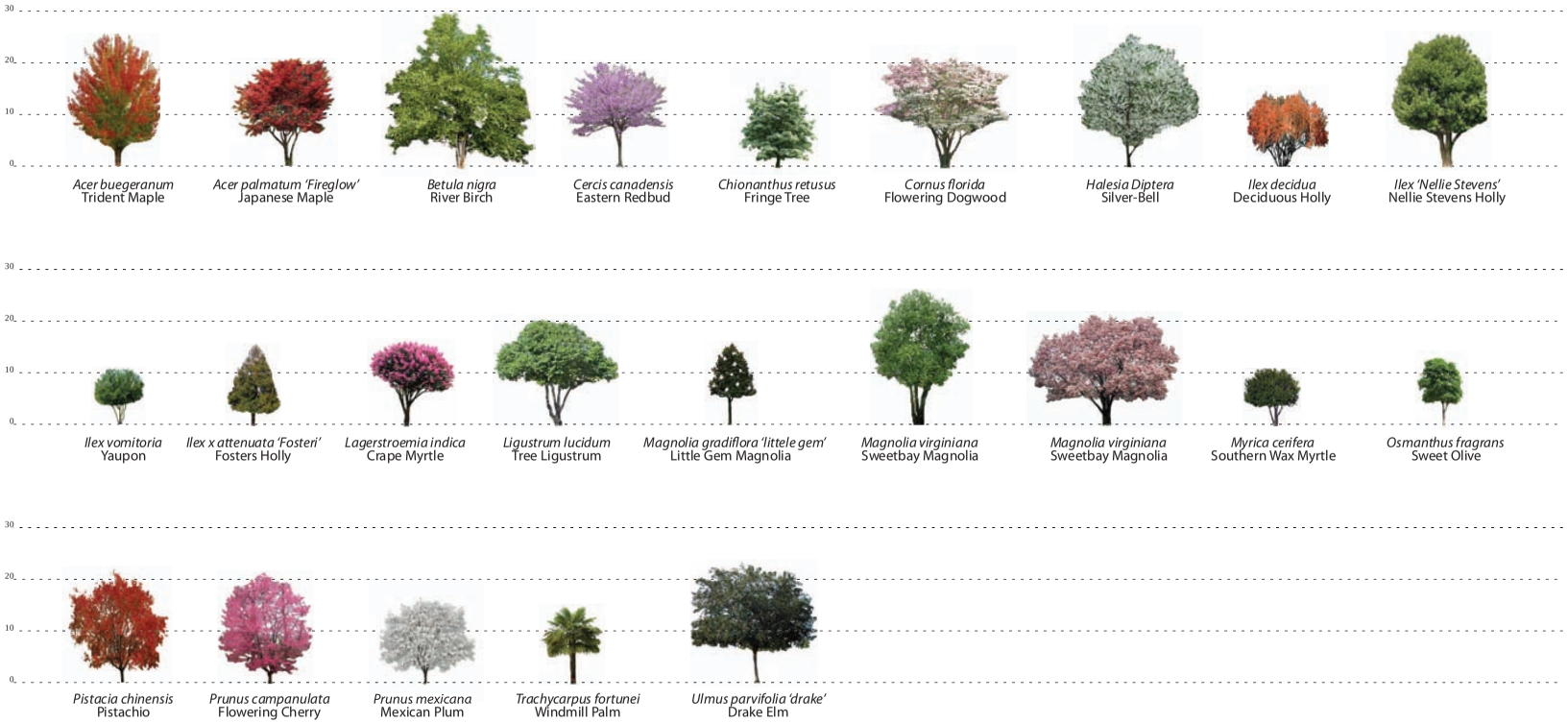
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Recommended Tree Species: Class B trees

Minimum Appropriate to species
Maximum 50 feet for single trees
75 feet for clusters of three or more trees

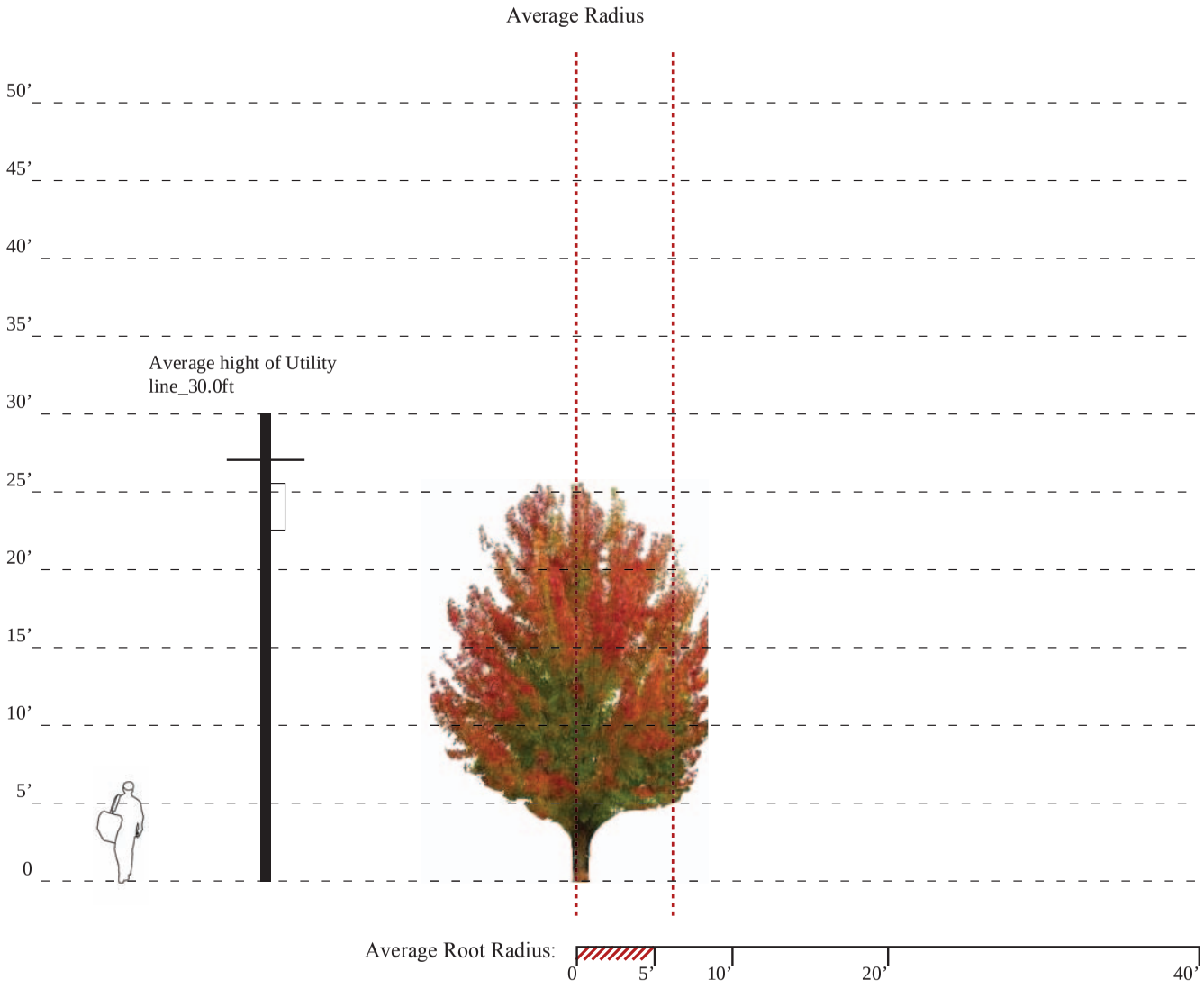
Lists of recommended tree and shrub species may be found in Appendix B of the Zoning Ordinance. Species may be added to or deleted from the list at the discretion of the Director of the Planning, Zoning, and Codes Department.

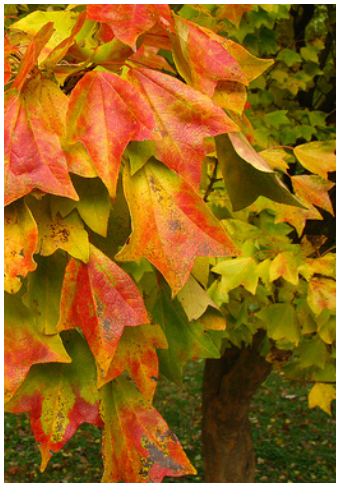


PlanLafayette

Class B

Acer buegeranum
Trident Maple



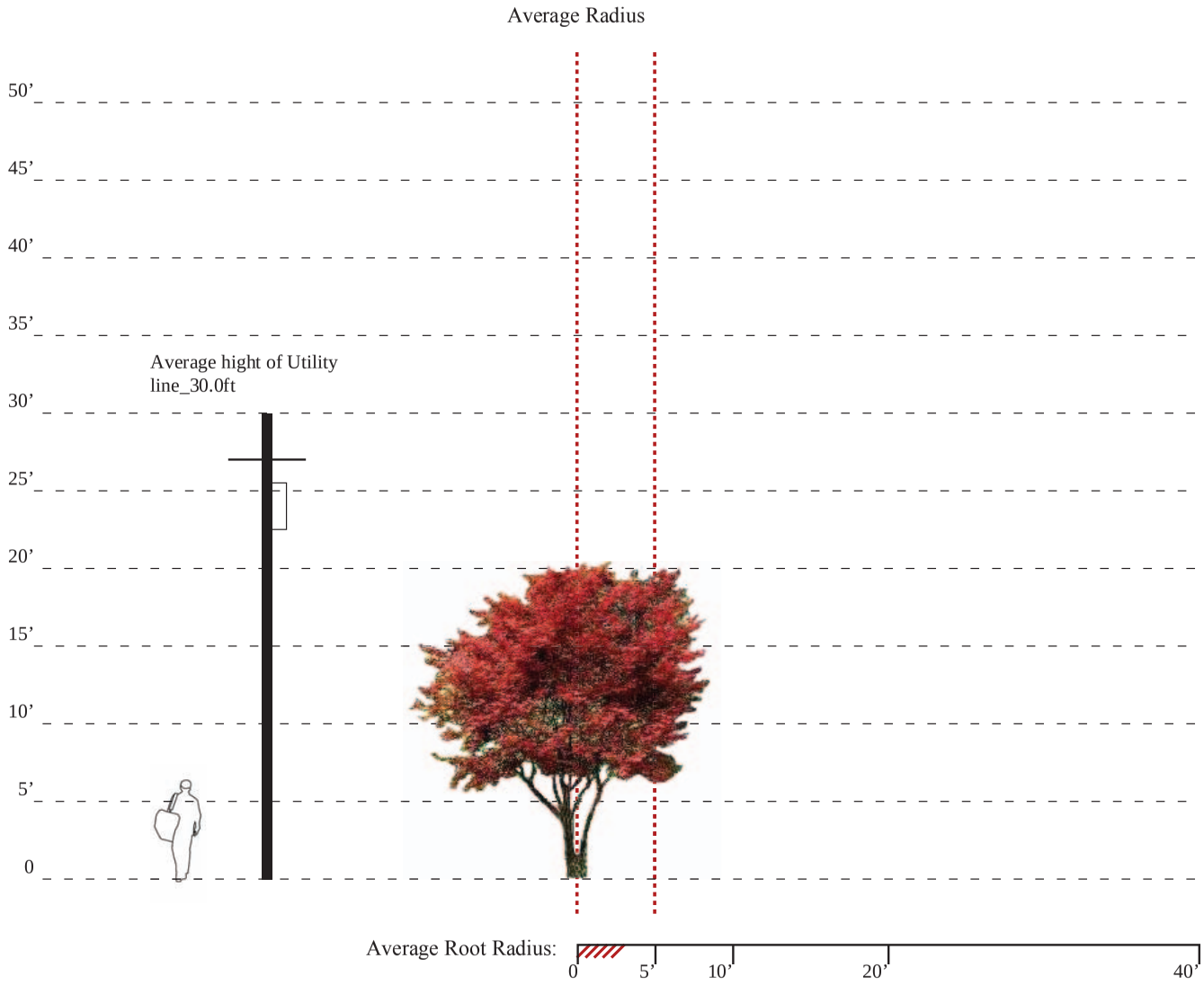


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Acer palmatum ‘Fireglow’
Fireglow Japanese Maple



Remarks:

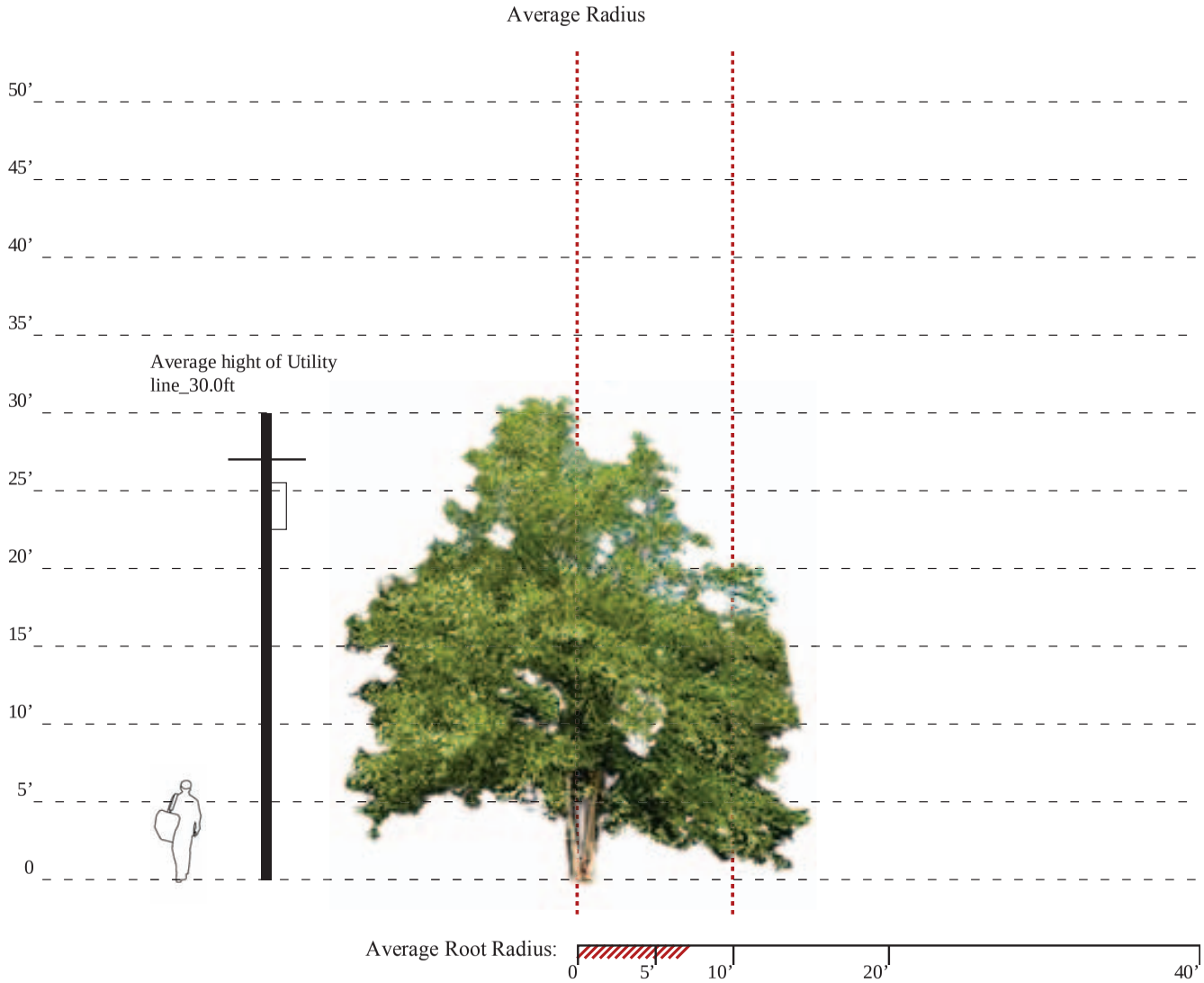
Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Betula nigra

River Birch

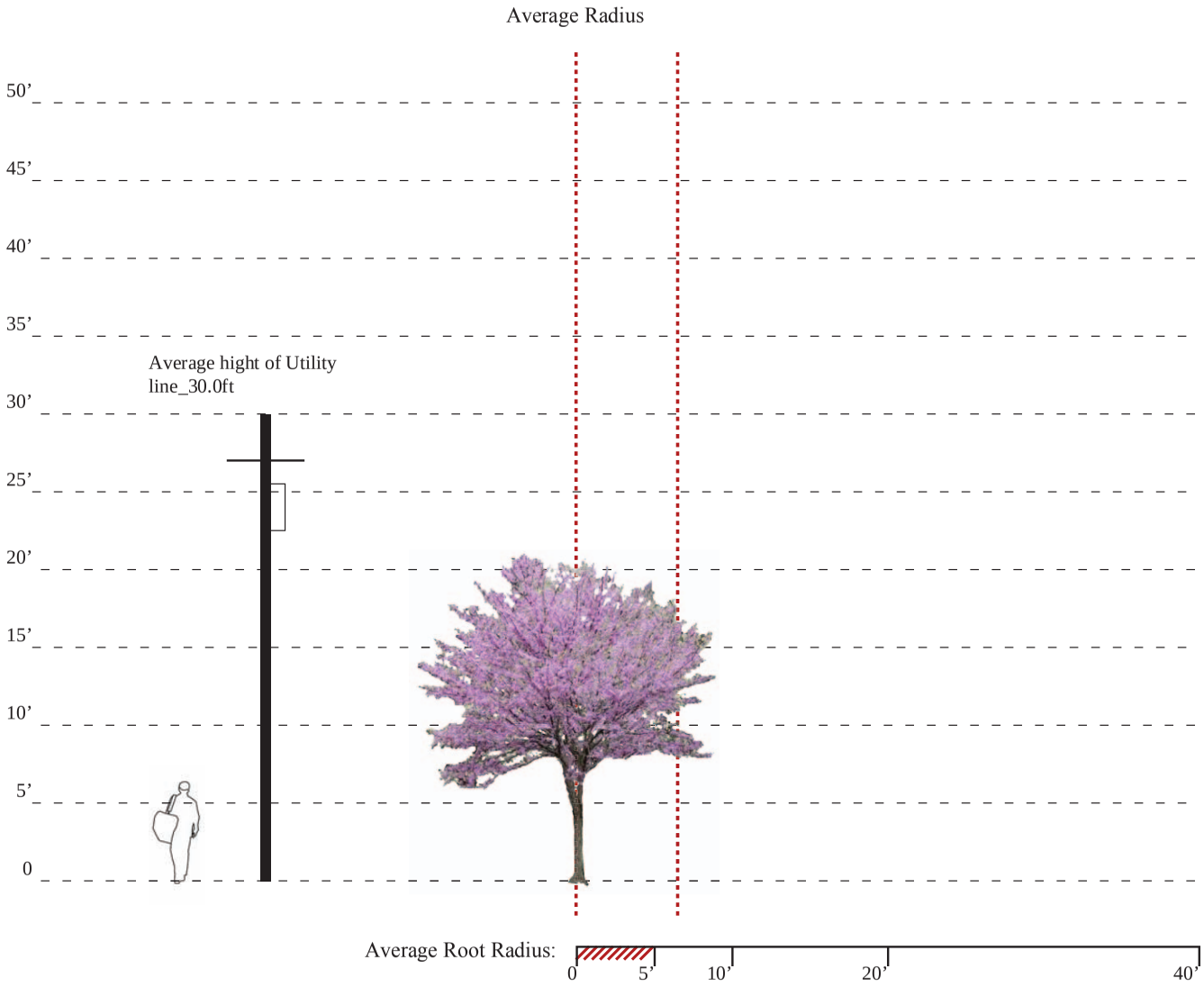


Remarks:

Water use - High
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class B

Cercis canadensis
Eastern Redbud



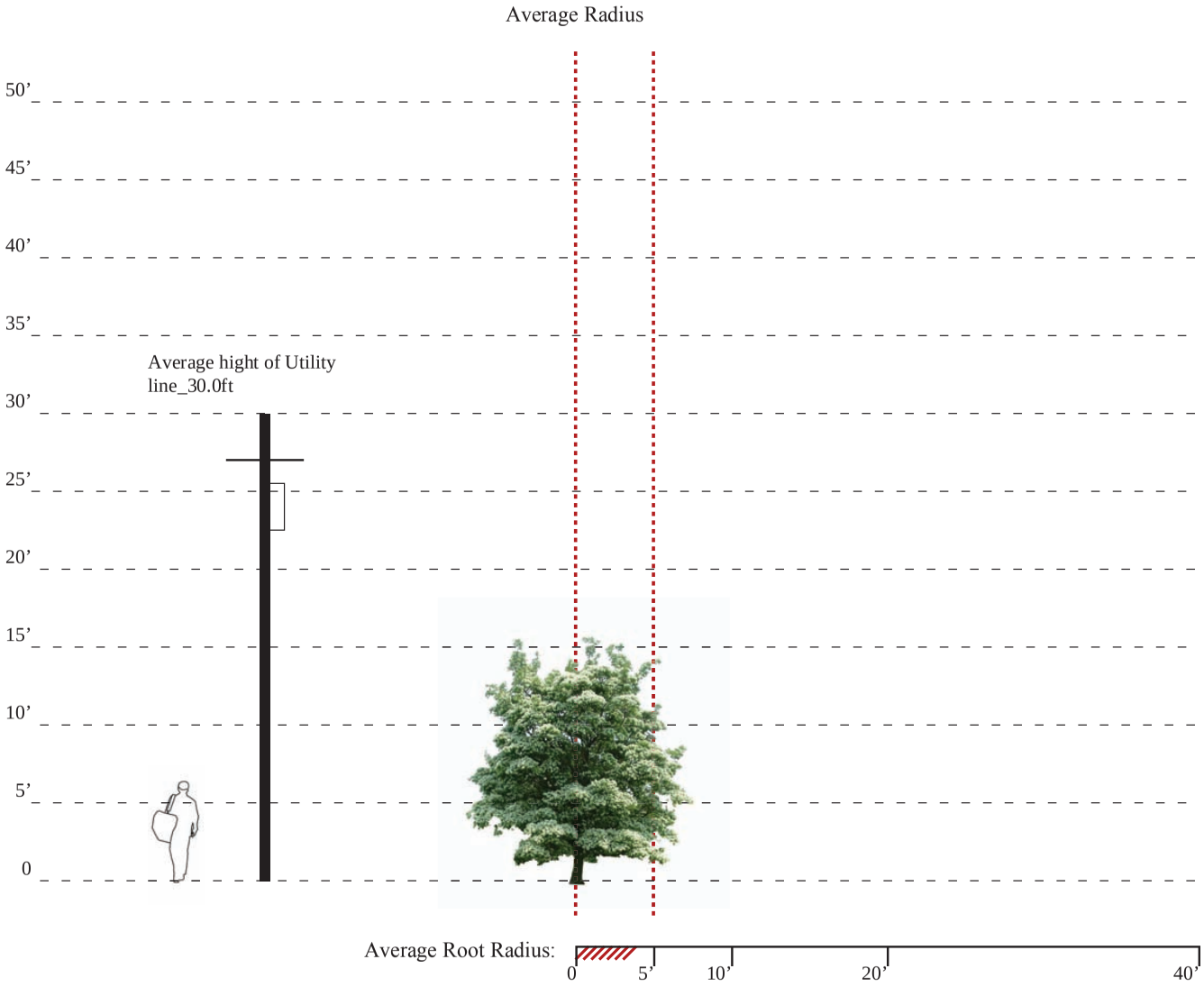
Remarks:

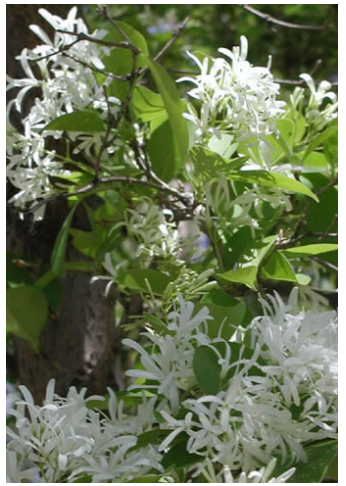
Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Chionanthus retusus
Fringe Tree





Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Cornus florida
Flowering Dogwood

Remarks:

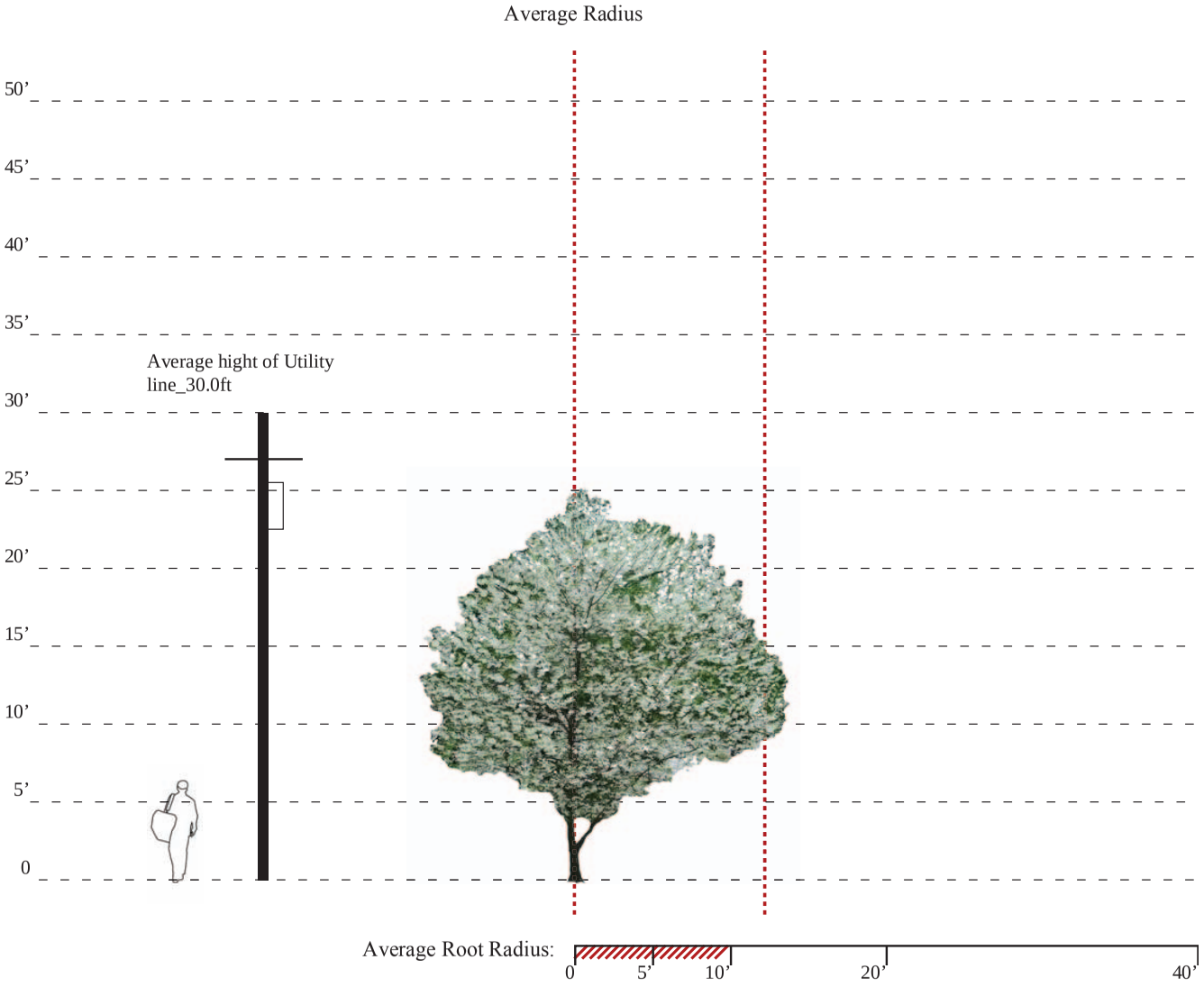
Water use - Low
Light Req - Part Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

PlanLafayette

Class B

Halesia diptera

Silver-Bell



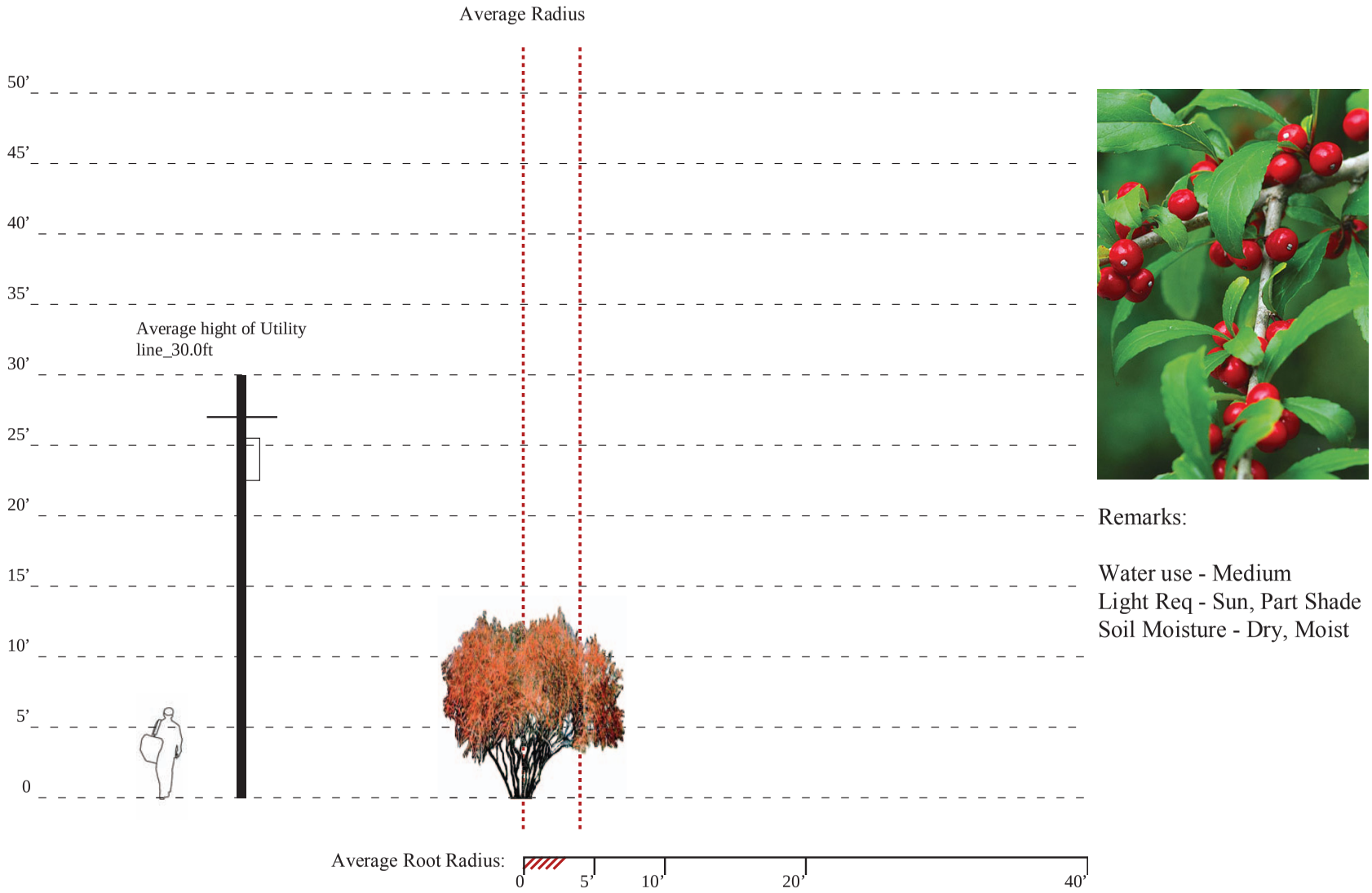
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

Class B

Ilex decidua

Deciduous Holly



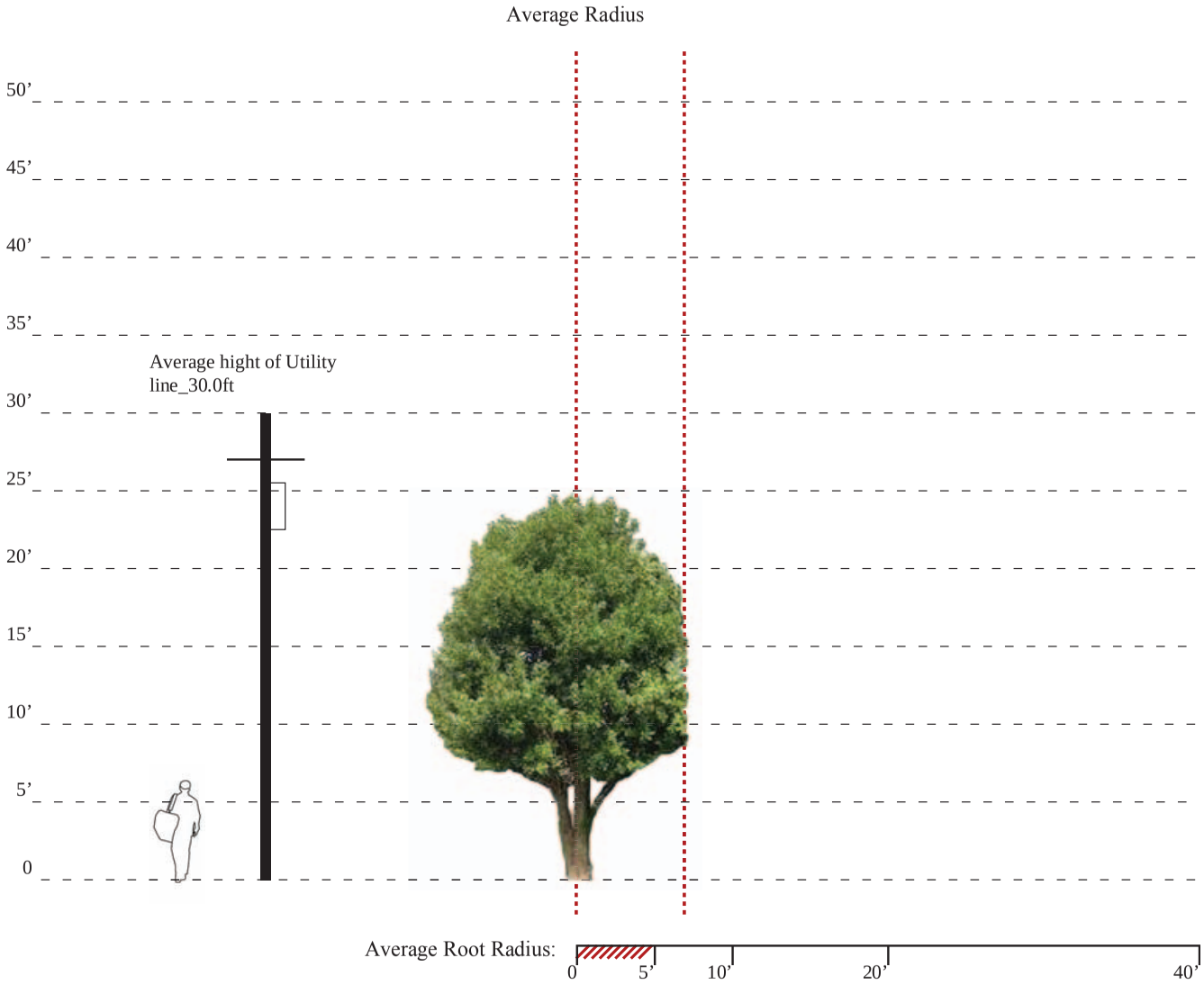
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

PlanLafayette

Class B

Ilex 'Nellie R. Stevens'
Nellie Stevens Holly



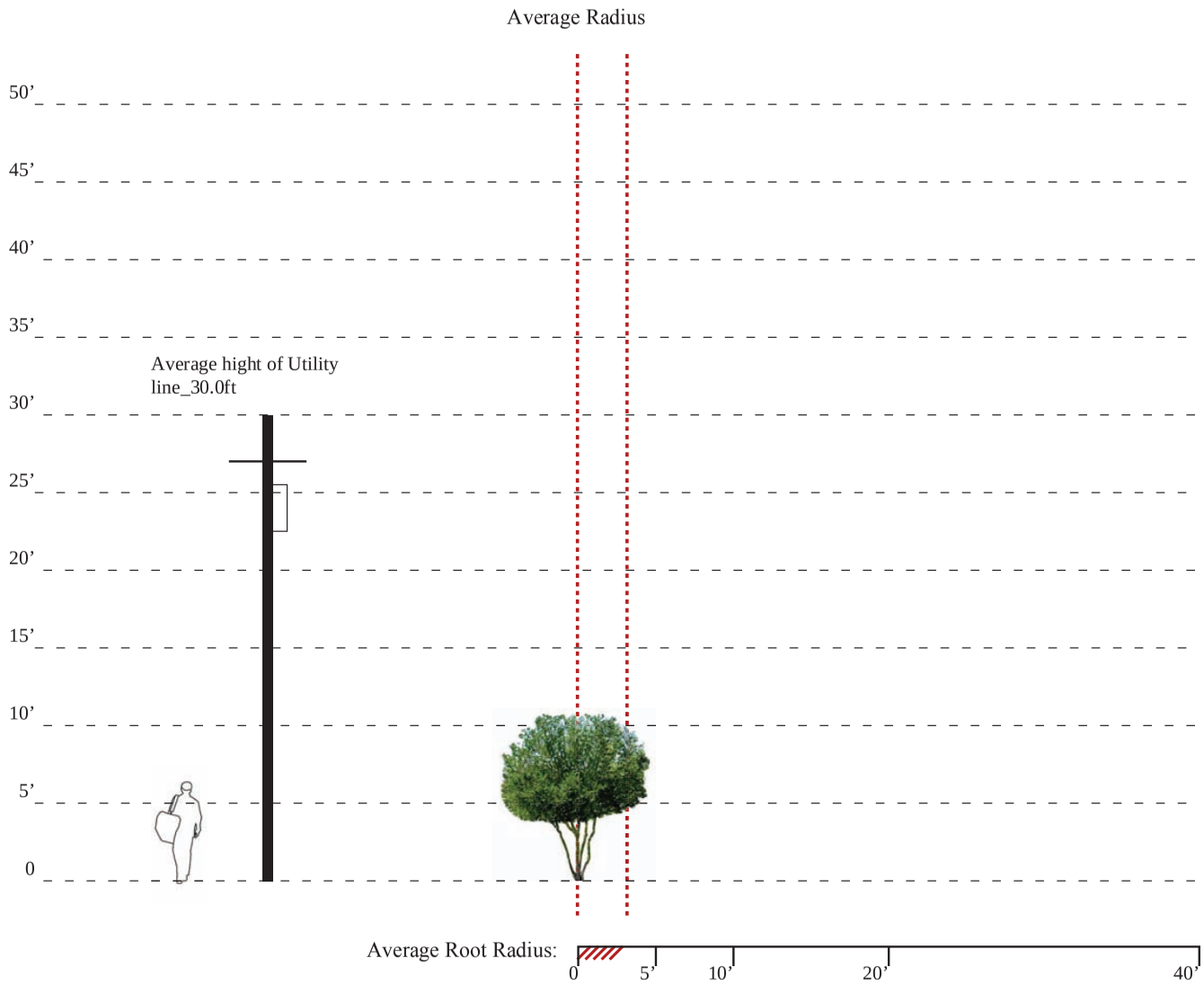
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

Class B

Ilex vomitoria

Yaupon



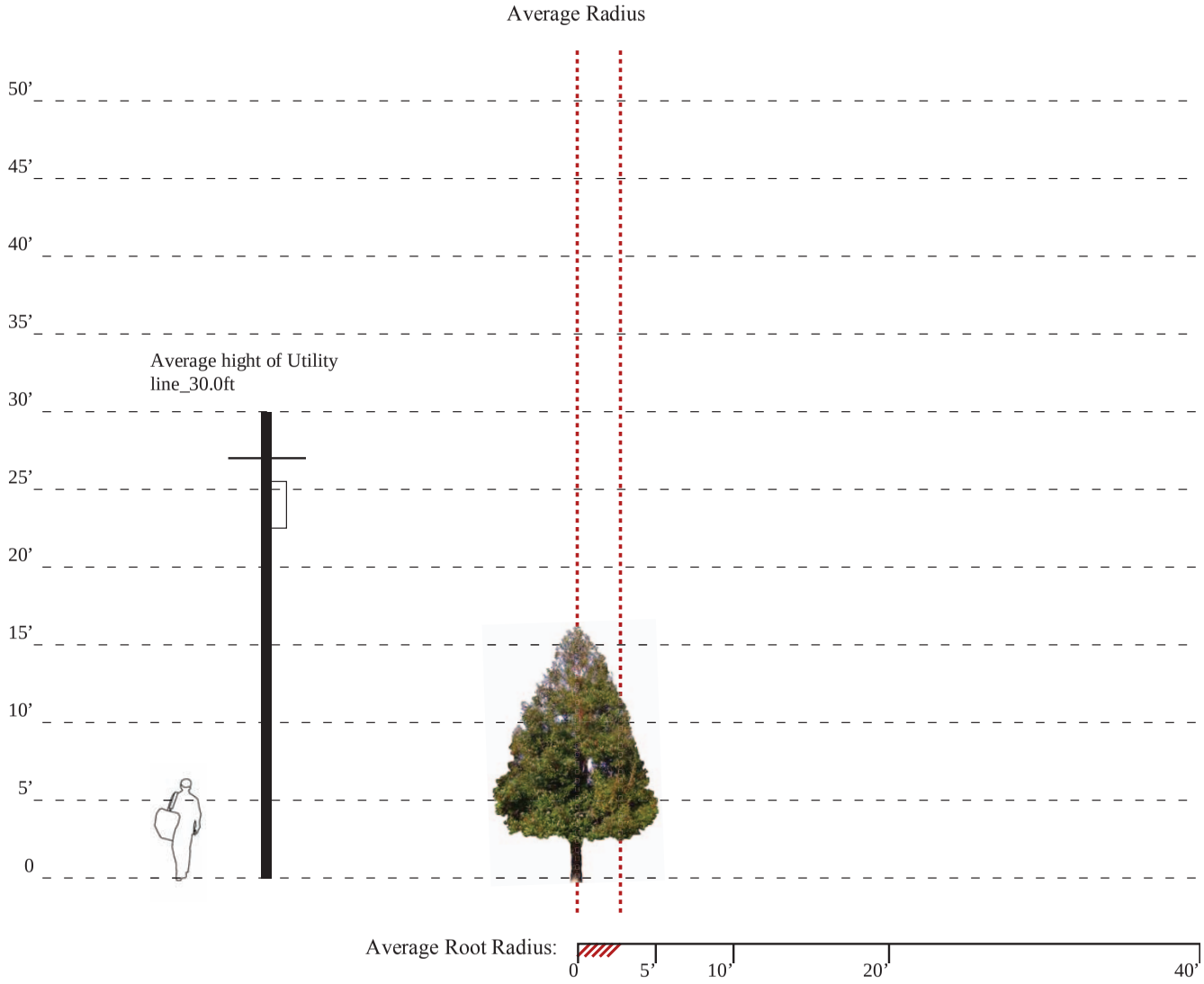
Remarks:

Water use - Low
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry, Moist

PlanLafayette

Class B

Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'
Foster's Holly

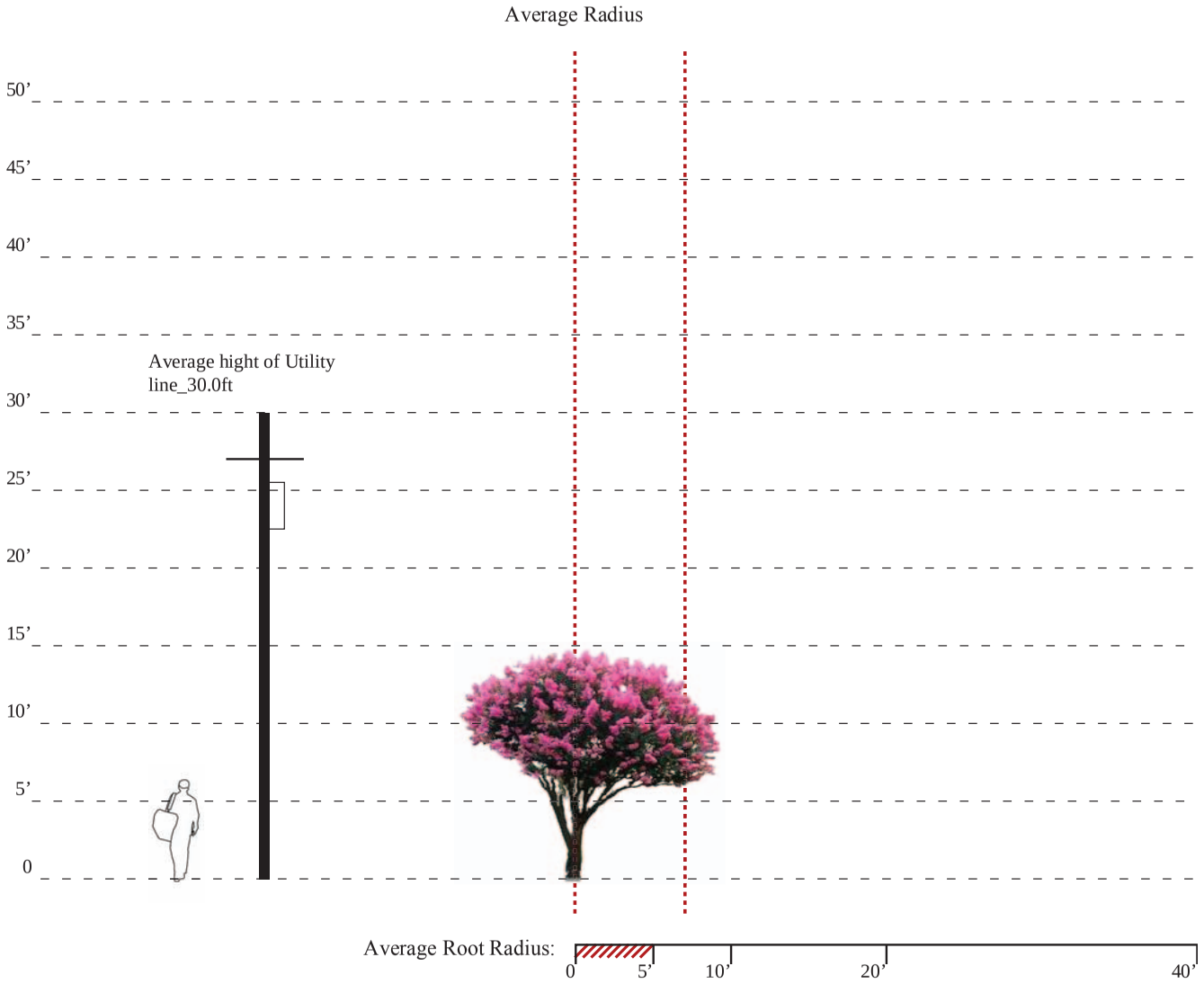


Remarks:

Water use - Low
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class B

Lagerstroemia indica
Crape Myrtle



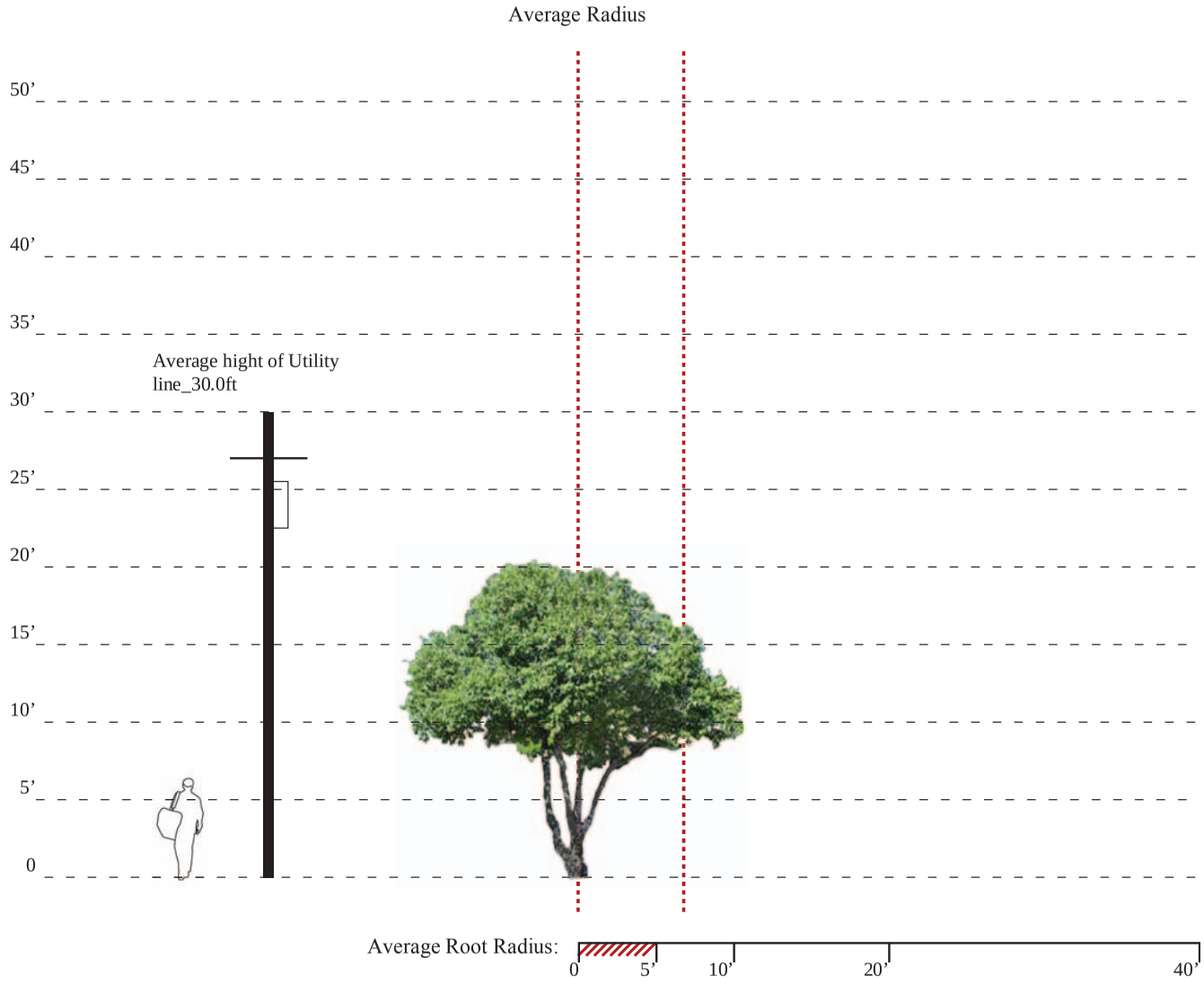
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun
Soil Moisture - Moist

PlanLafayette

Class B

Ligustrum lucidum
Tree Ligustrum

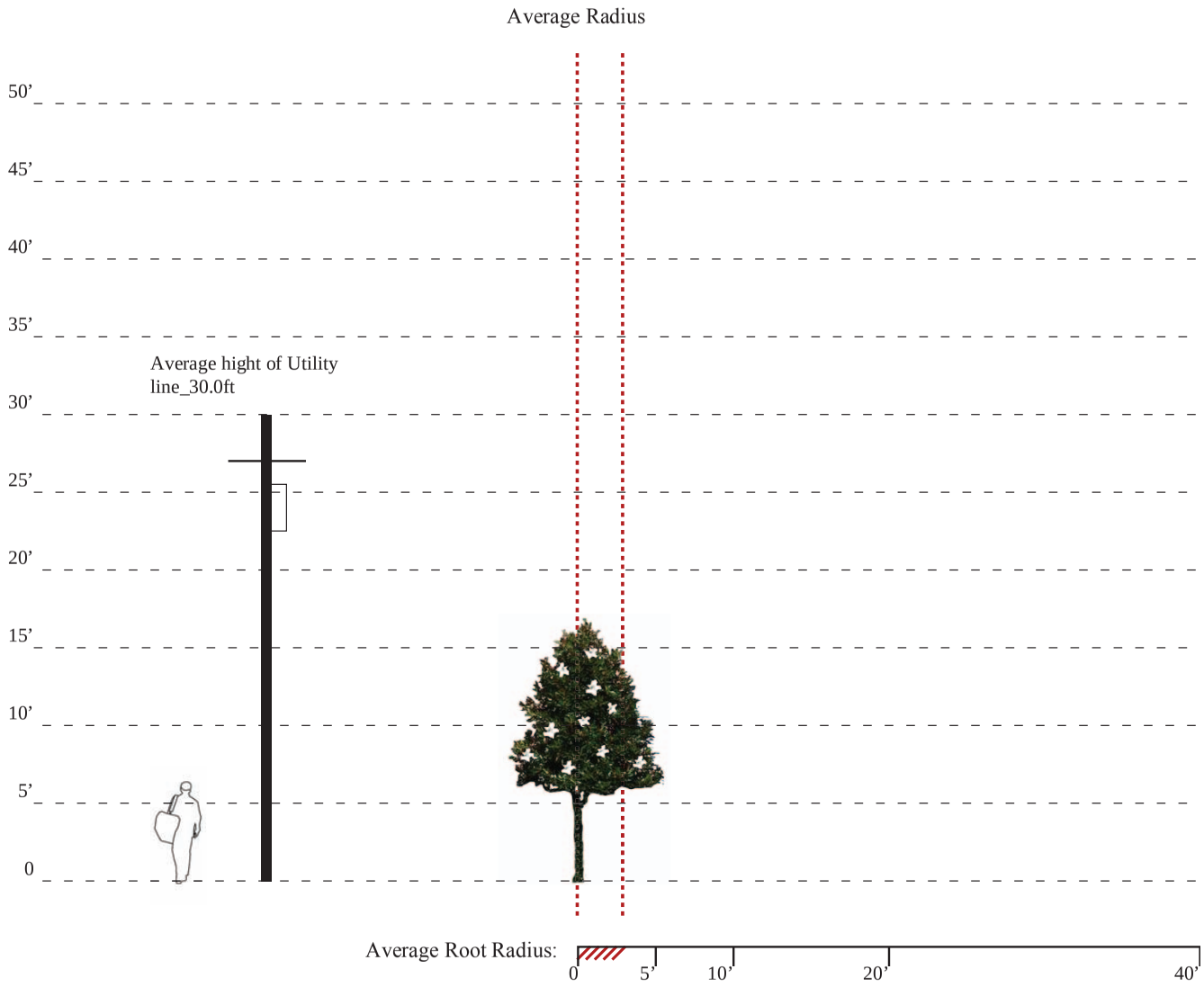


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist

Class B

Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'
Southern Magnolia ' Little Gem'



Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Sun, Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Dry

PlanLafayette

Class B

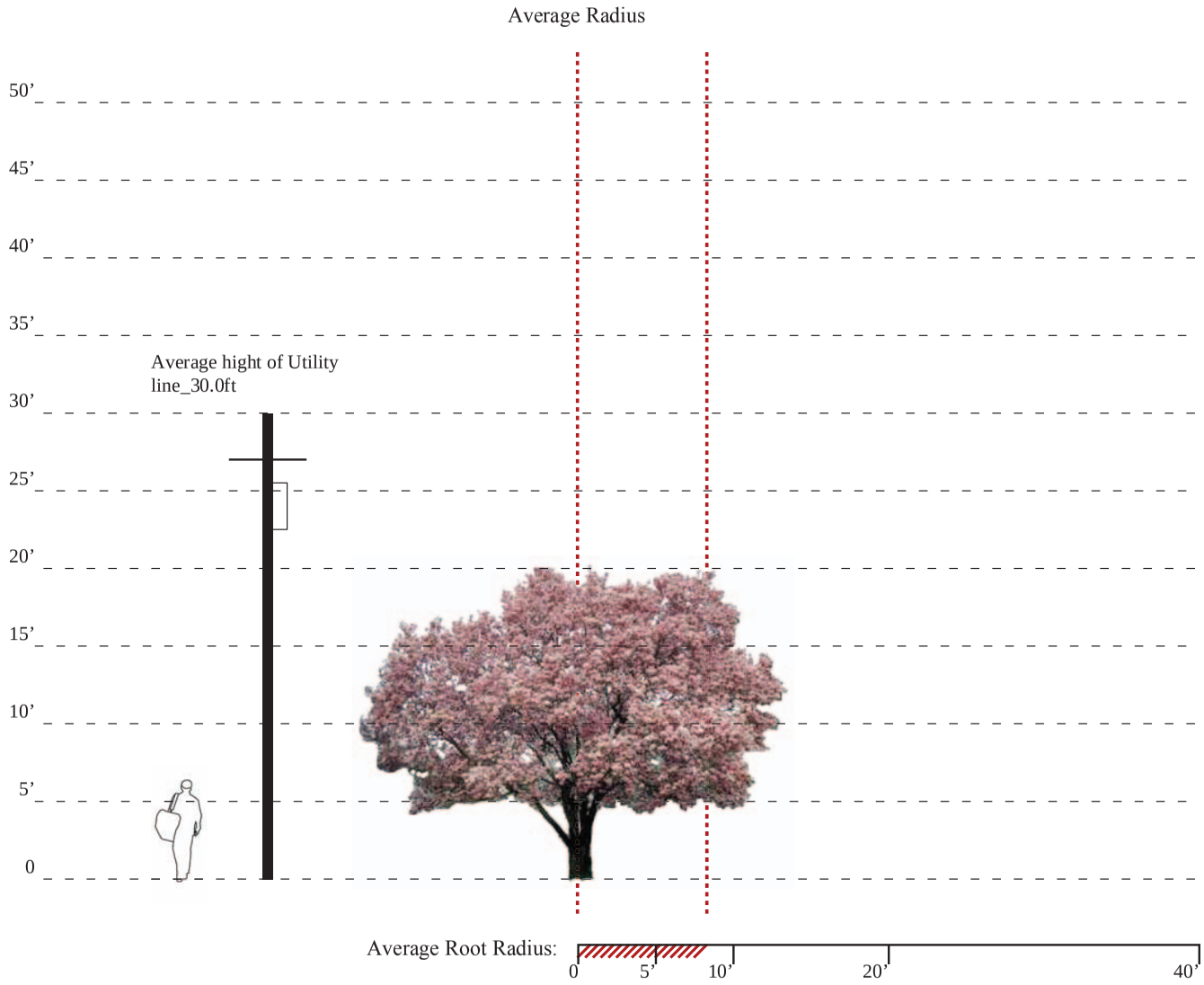
Magnolia virginiana
Sweet Bay Magnolia

Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Magnolia x soulangiana
Oriental Magnolia



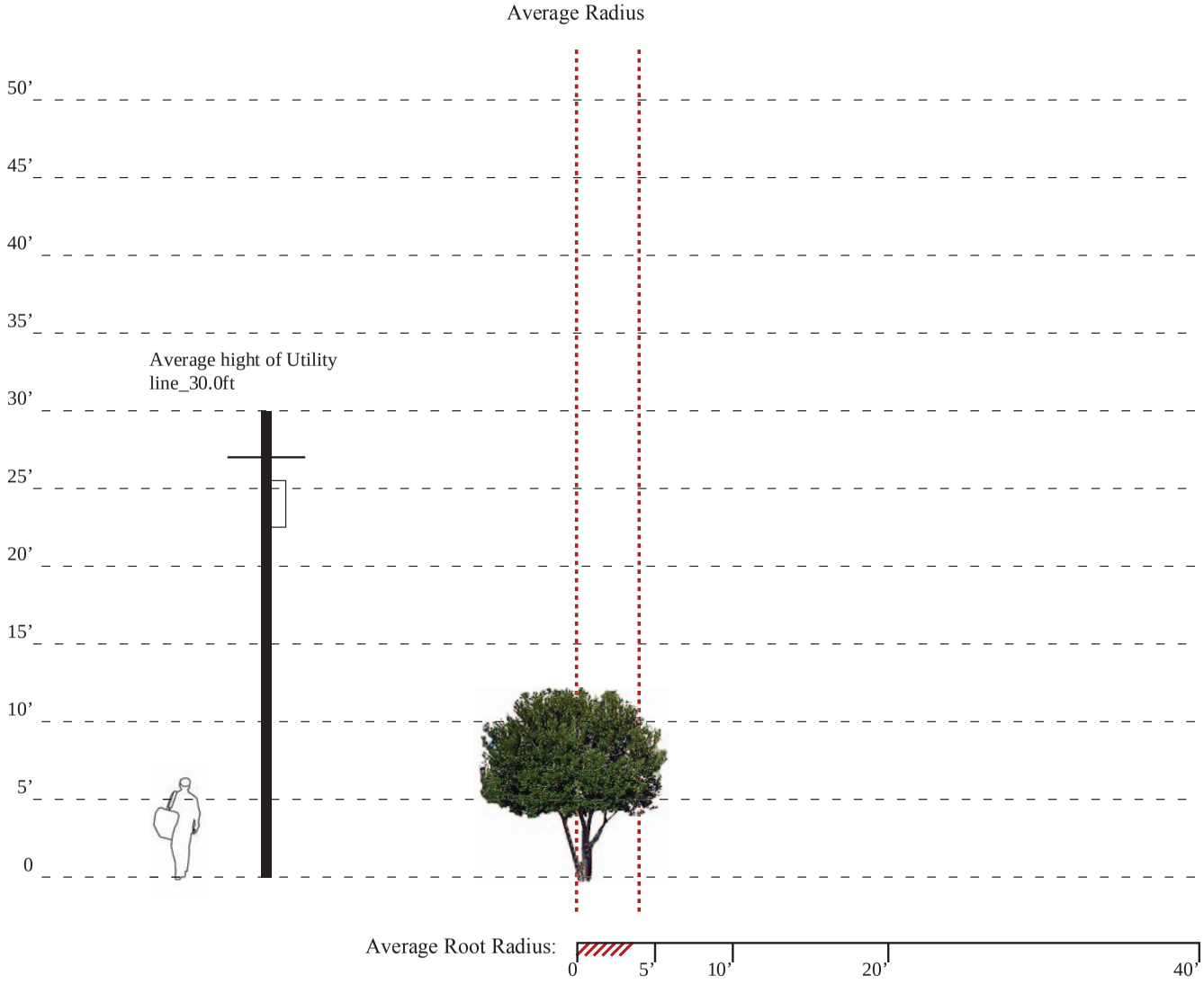
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Myrica cerifera
Southern Wax Myrtle

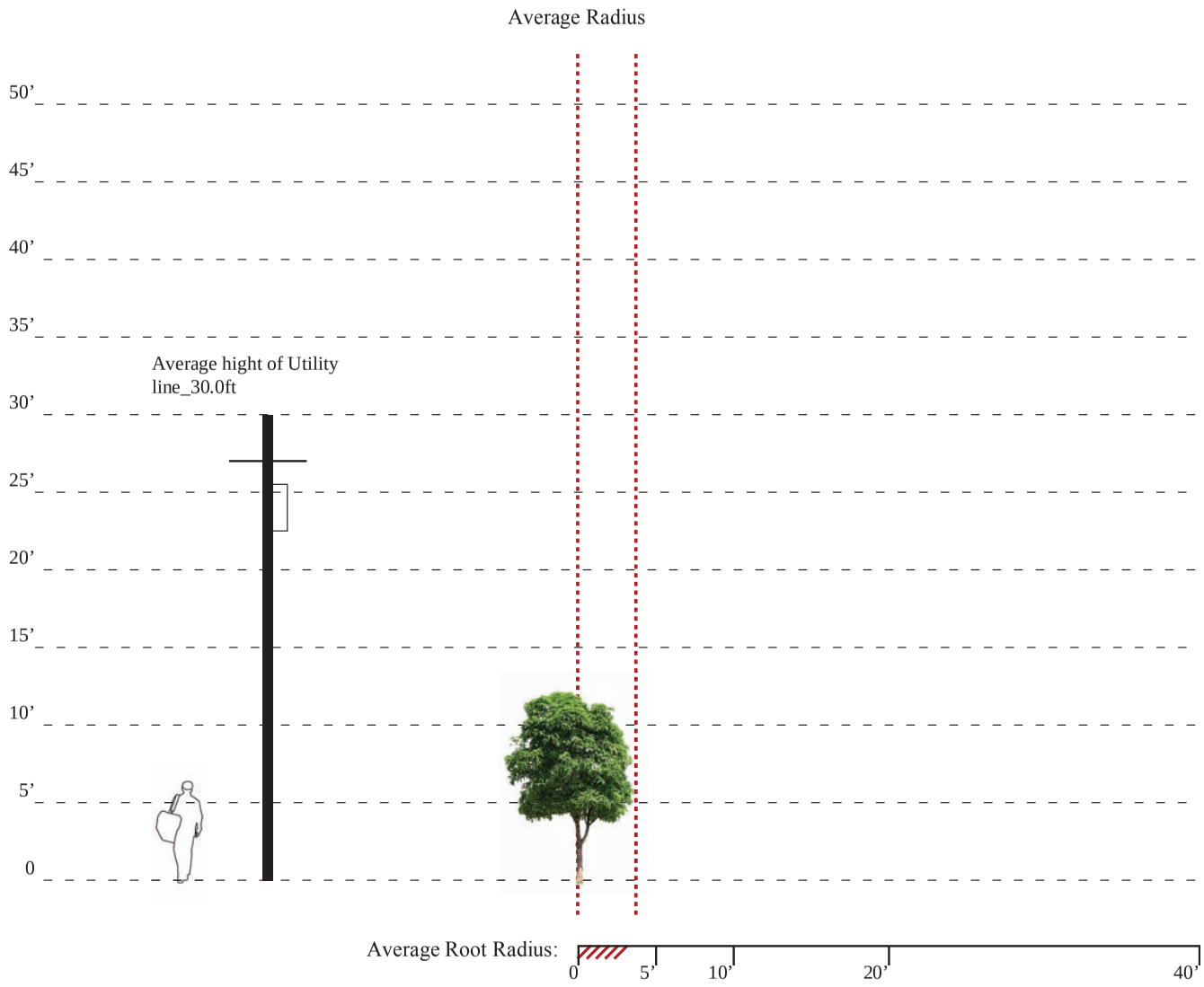


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Osmanthus fragrans
Sweet Olive



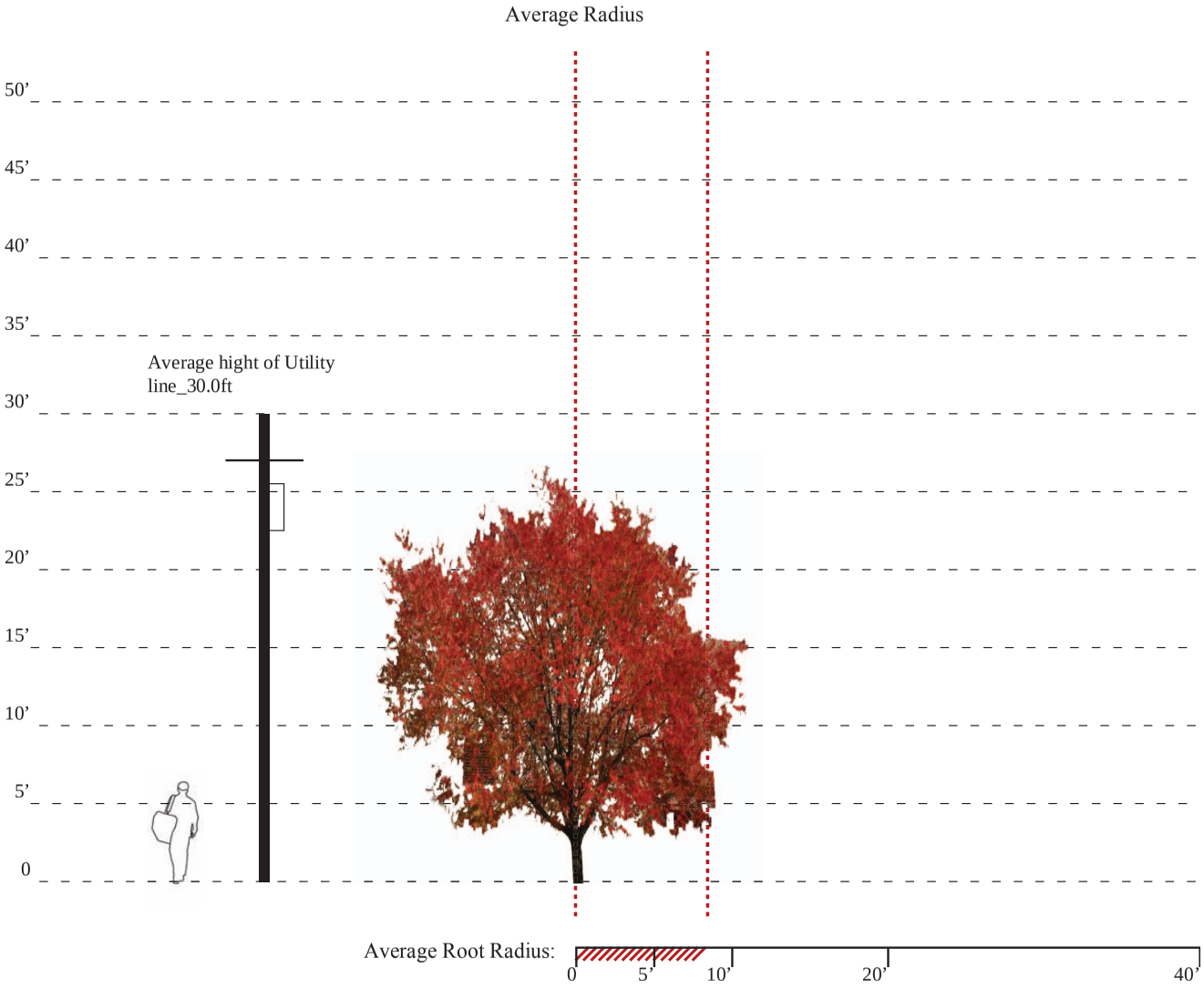
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Pistacia chinensis
Pistachio

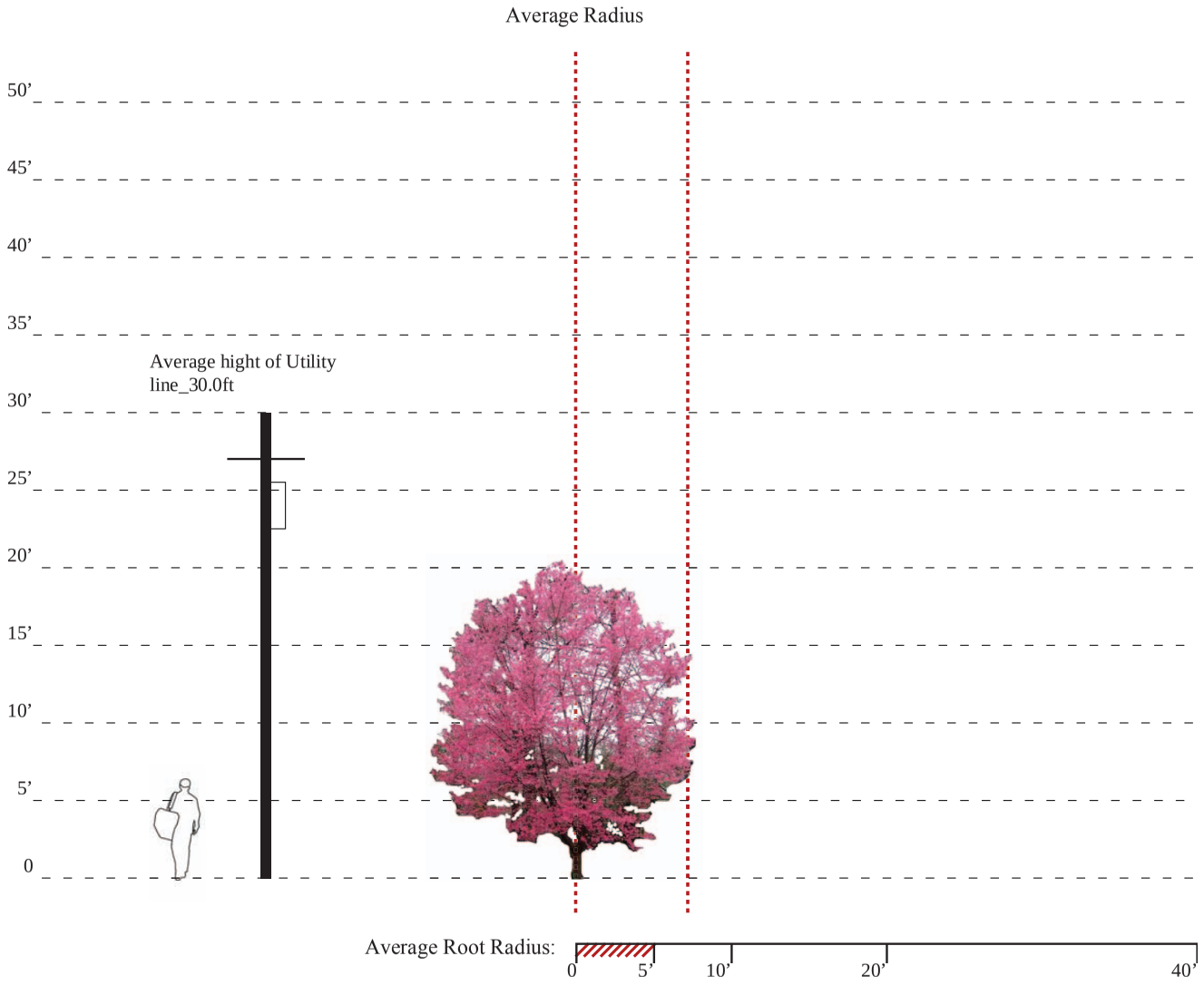


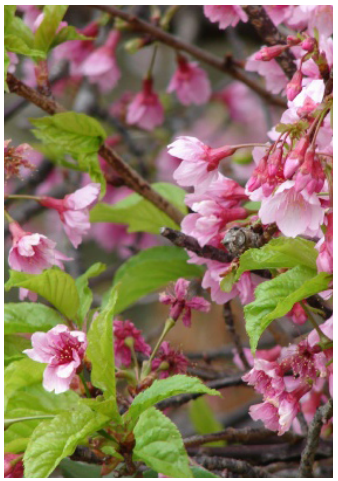
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Prunus campanulata
Flowering Cherry





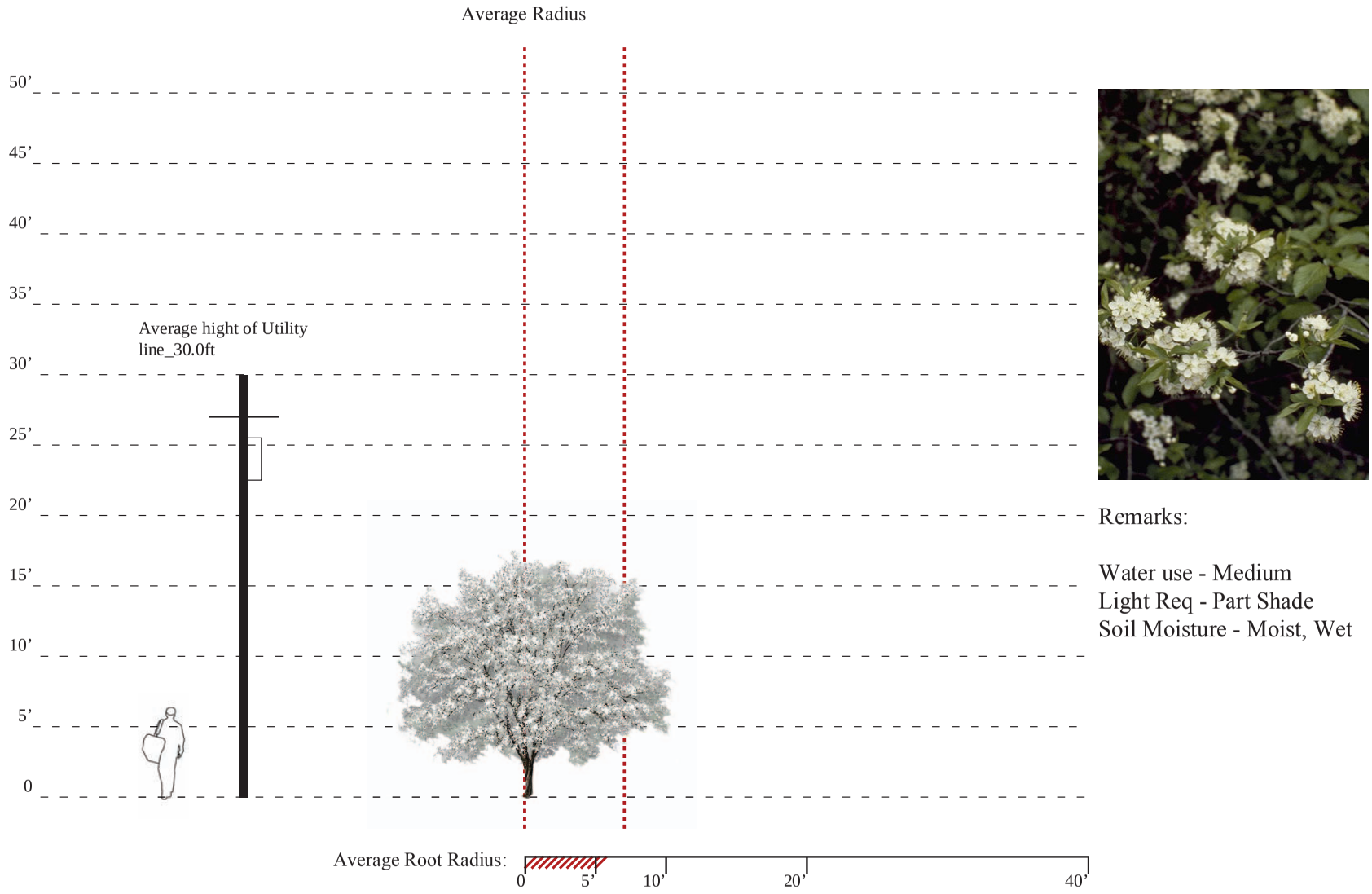
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Prunus mexicana
Mexican Plum

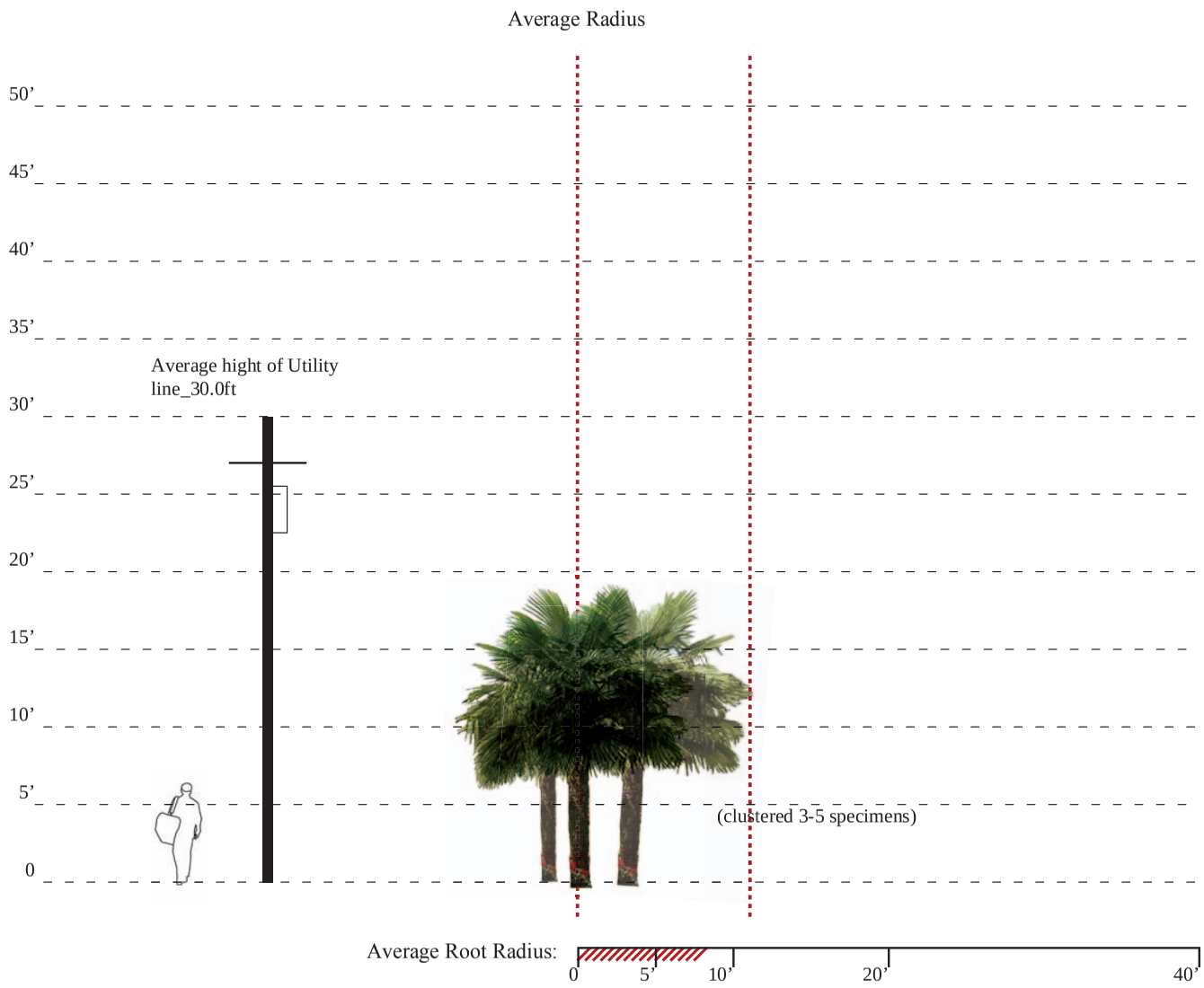


Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

Class B

Trachycarpus fortunei
Windmill Palm



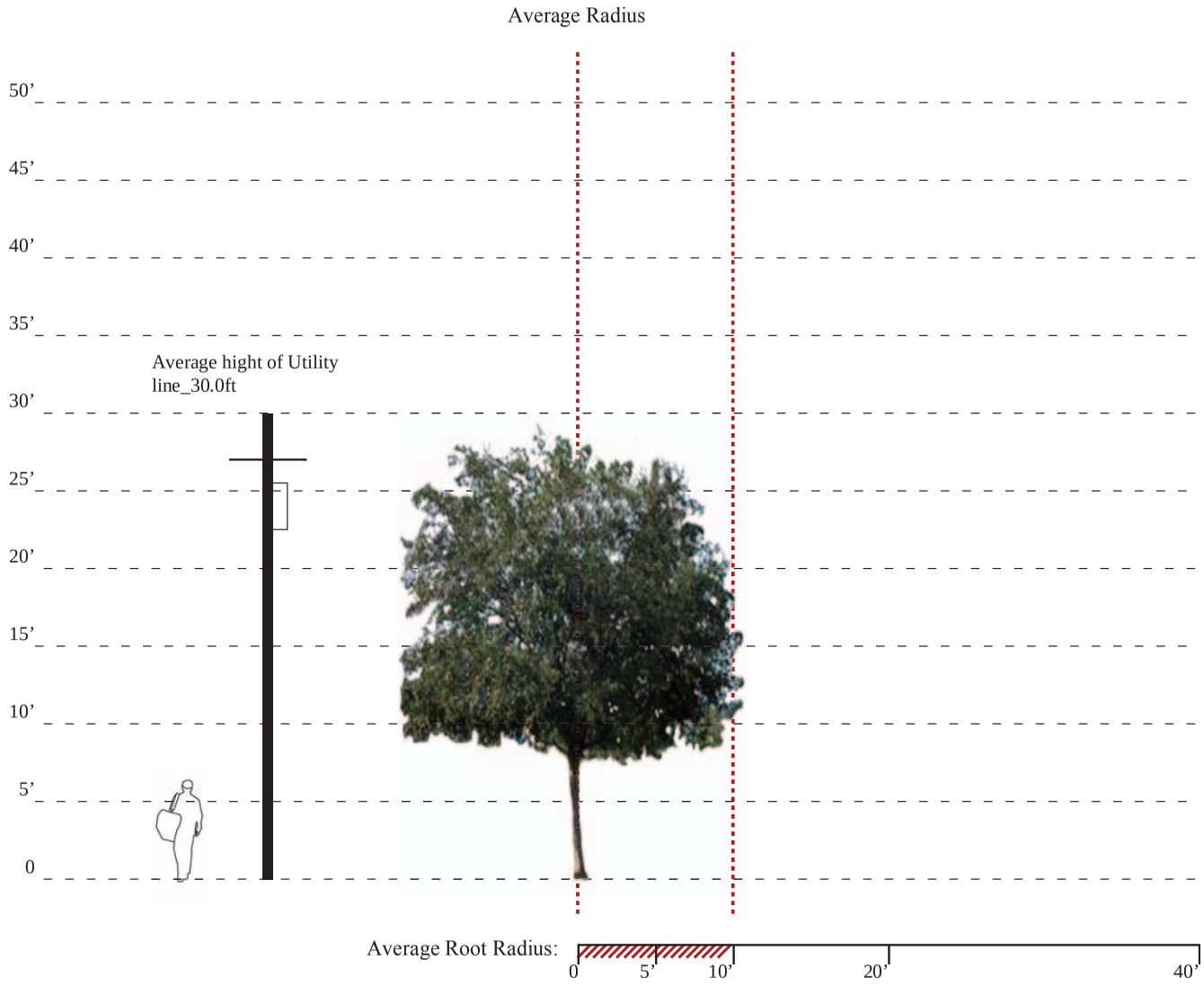
Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet

PlanLafayette

Class B

Ulmus parvifolia ‘Drake’
Drake Elm



Remarks:

Water use - Medium
Light Req - Part Shade
Soil Moisture - Moist, Wet