



# CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

## Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

### In need of an inexpensive replacement?

Doesn't it seem to be, that regardless of how much TLC one can administer, sometimes a tree just doesn't make it through the winter? Or, how about the tree that can't take getting hit by a car traveling at 35 mph after sliding off an ice-covered road? Or maybe that rogue buck at the back of the forest line decided that your favorite tree would make an excellent scratching post. I can use all kinds of different scenarios, but with the way the gears spin around in my head, this brief 3 minute article could wind up being a 3 day read, and we all have work to do seeing as spring FINALLY decided to show up this year!



So what's my point? Let's talk about commercial grade trees. Commercial grade is an economical way to replace a tree without blowing the warranty budget on a job, add that little extra kick along the edge of one's property line, or satisfy that one customer that is looking for a tree that has some character to it. We've all dealt with the character-loving customer at some point during our career, haven't we?

Commercial grade doesn't mean that it's a bad specimen. There may be a branch or two that could have been broken off, maybe a few scrapes or scars on the trunk, or it's developed a wavy trunk. Granted, these may not be ideal specimens to use on every jobsite, but if a tree got annihilated in a parking lot at a local shopping mall, you may as well save yourself some money. I highly doubt that people parking their cars to go buy a 250" LCD TV with 25,000p and 45 speaker surround sound are going to stop and point out a 6", healed-up scar on a tree trunk and report it to the grounds management company. I don't know about you, but I would like to keep that extra money in my wallet, especially on a tree that most everyone won't notice.

We've all got our own bumps, bruises, cuts, and scrapes, but we all turned out pretty good. Why not give Commercial Grade trees a chance as well?

-Dave Reutter



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