

Contractor Questions & Responses

The following clarifications are provided in response to contractor questions. These responses are intended to supplement the bid documents and should be considered part of the project requirements.

General

Q – Is vehicle access allowed within each project area?

A – Yes. However, pickup truck access is expected to be limited in portions of the Appomattox Court House and Colonial project areas. ATV/UTV access is permitted.

Petersburg

Q – We counted 7 Callery pear trees, some around 30 feet tall. Assuming there are 7–15 on site, do you prefer that we cut them down a few months after treatment, or can they be left to decay?

A – Minimizing risk to newly planted trees is a priority. The method and timing of treatment and removal may be determined by the successful bidder, provided that the approach minimizes risk to newly planted trees.

Q – Should we assume to leave any native tree that is on the planting list or reaches a specific diameter?

A – Where feasible, native tree species should be retained.

Q – Five-foot-tall tree tubes are recommended by the Virginia Department of Forestry for deer protection, while the grant specifications call for four-foot tree tubes. Is there budget for using five-foot tree tubes and taller stakes?

A – Five-foot tree tubes may be considered. Please include cost estimates for both four-foot and five-foot tree tubes, including the appropriate stakes.

Q – We noticed an area of approximately 1,000 square feet of Japanese honeysuckle. Is there a preferred method of management? Are you opposed to primarily performing mechanical removal?

A – The method of treatment is flexible, provided it meets the project specifications. All invasive species control efforts shall be at least 90% effective at preventing resprouting by the conclusion of the agreement.

Q – For the tree planting rings, can we brush-whack the six-foot-diameter circles instead of applying herbicide to limit exposure to existing native plants and animals?

A – Yes. Mechanical treatment is acceptable, provided the area surrounding each planted tree remains sufficiently clear to minimize competition and discourage vole damage.

Q – For thinning of pine trees, we asked the park contact for an onsite location for disposal of brush. Would you be opposed to creating a natural barrier of tree brush along the edge of the site to act as a natural wall to keep out deer?

A – This strategy may be considered. According to park data, the Five Forks unit experiences medium to high deer pressure, particularly on deer-preferred species. Any proposed brush barrier should not interfere with site access, maintenance, or other project activities.

Appomattox Court House

Q – Are there any concerns or requirements to clear brush that is cut during cut-and-paint herbicide applications?

A – No. Brush removal is not required following cut-and-paint herbicide applications.

Booker T. Washington

Q – Are you open to basal bark applications for ailanthus at this site?

A – Yes. Basal bark and hack-and-squirt treatments are acceptable, provided that standing dead trees will not pose a risk to the public or be located immediately adjacent to trails, roads, or parking areas.

Q – Are there any concerns or requirements to clear brush that is cut during cut-and-paint herbicide applications?

A – No. Brush removal is not required following cut-and-paint herbicide applications.

Colonial

Q – For large privet trees located within sensitive sites, would you prefer cut-and-paint or basal bark application so they can be left to slowly decay? Do you prefer that trees be removed after herbicide application?

A – Larger trees and shrubs within sensitive sites may be treated using basal bark or hack-and-squirt methods. Removal of treated trees is not required unless necessary to address a safety concern.

Q – Is there an onsite location with the park for brush disposal?

A – No. Brush removal and disposal will not be required.

Q – Are there any large invasive trees within sensitive sites that will need to be hand-cut without mechanized equipment?

A – Large invasive trees within sensitive sites may need to be hand-cut where necessary. Bidders should account for the potential need for manual treatment methods in sensitive areas.

Q – Are there any concerns or requirements to clear brush that is cut during cut-and-paint herbicide applications within sensitive sites?

A – No. Brush removal is not required within sensitive areas.

Q – Are you open to basal bark applications for ailanthus at this site?

A – Yes. Basal bark applications are acceptable for ailanthus.