32 93 13 – Groundcovers

1. Introduction
   A. This Construction & Design standard covers planting guidelines to be used in conjunction with other related sections listed below:

   32 01 90  Operation and Maintenance of Planting
   32 01 90.23  Pruning
   32 01 90.26  Watering
   32 80 00  Irrigation
   32 90 00  Planting
   32 91 00  Planting Preparation
   32 93 00  Soil Preparation
   32 91 13.26  Mulch
   32 93 00  Plants
   32 93 43  Trees

   B. Designers should coordinate with Duke University Landscape Services (LS) to coordinate selection and execution requirements for Groundcover.

2. Installation and Performance Requirements
   A. Assure soil moisture is within the required levels prior to planting. See Soil Preparation section 32 91 13 for additional information. Irrigation, if required, shall be applied at least 12 hours prior to planting to avoid planting in muddy soils. For irrigation specifications see section 32 80 00 Irrigation.

   B. Assure soil grades in the beds are smooth.

   C. Plants shall be planted in even, triangularly spaced rows, at the intervals specified, unless otherwise noted. The first row of Annual flower plants shall be 6 inches from the bed edge unless otherwise directed. See Planting section 32 90 00.

   D. Dig planting holes sufficiently large enough to insert the root system without deforming the roots. Set the top of the root system at the grade of the soil.

   E. Schedule the planting to occur prior to application of the mulch. If the bed is already mulched, pull the mulch from around the hole and plant into the soil. Do not plant the root system in the mulch. Pull mulch back so it is not on the root ball surface.

   F. Press soil to bring the root system in contact with the soil.

   G. Spread any excess soil around in the spaces between plants.
H. Apply mulch to the bed being sure not to cover the tops of the plants with or the tops of the root ball with mulch. See Mulch section 32 91 13.26.

I. Water each planting area as soon as the planting is completed. Apply additional water to keep the soil moisture at the required levels. Do not over water. See Watering section 32 01 90.26.