

TreeCore by WaterGrip™

- TreeCore – is a new sponge-like material made from WaterGrip media. It was installed May 24, 2013 at the time of planting of landscape trees (Figure 1) on Massachusetts Avenue at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst Campus.

Four 3" x 3" columns 18" long were evenly spaced around the root ball of three trees. One tree had four 5" x 5" columns. The top of the TreeCore column was positioned slightly below the top of the root ball.

Figure 1. Tree planting and TreeCore column placement, UMass May 24, 2013.



- Root penetration into four TreeCore columns on two trees was observed on September 11, 2013 by carefully scraping bark mulch and some soil to reveal the top of the TreeCore column (Figure 2). A coring device used to collect samples from baled hay was used to take a 3/4" diameter sample from the TreeCore column (Figure 3).



Figure 2. Top of TreeCore column showing roots through the surface of the column.



Figure 3. Sample cores with roots taken from the TreeCore column.

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