



TREE PLANTING GUIDE

TRUNK GUARD

Remove transit guard wrapping on trunk and ties from branches.

PLANTING DEPTH

Find the root flare where the trunk meets the roots. Place the tree in the hole so that the root flare is 2" higher than the surrounding ground level.

Balled-and Burlapped Tree

DIG HOLE

2" less than the height of the root ball and twice the width with sloped sides.

BURLAP

Roll down burlap and any wire basket 2/3 of the root ball. Cut and remove all poly ties from root ball.

FOR EASE OF REMOVING THE ROOTS FROM THE CONTAINER

Gently roll it on its side. Put pressure on all sides of the container to loosen the inside root ball. This may require a lot of pressure and stomping on it with your feet.

Pick the tree up by the container, not by the tree

MULCH

- No more than 3"-4" thick
- Mulch should not touch trunk
- Make a lip at the edge

Container Grown Tree

CIRCLING ROOTS

Redirect outwards any circling side or bottom roots and separate matted roots. You may have to be tenacious and use a shovel, pick, knife, and hands.

BACK FILL

Use existing soil to fill in around the root ball. Do not tamp.

Water thoroughly at time of planting. water deeply for the next 3 years during the growing season and in future times of drought.

TREE CARE TIPS

You've planted your tree, now what?

WATER

Keep the top 12 inches of soil moist. Your tree should get between 5 and 10 gallons each week during the first two growing seasons. This includes rainfall amounts. When watering by hand, allow the water to soak slowly into the soil—generally, a little more than a trickle from a hose.

— 12 inches

TREE PROTECTION

Your tree came with a trunk guard to protect it from string trimmer and mower damage. If you have deer in your area, you should protect the trunk from antler damage with a longer guard. These may be made from materials available at hardware stores or may be purchased from our website.

TREE DIAPER

If you ordered a Tree Diaper, it should be used for the first three years. Keep mowers and trimmers away to avoid damaging the watering device. If your Tree Diaper is damaged, contact NTCC to order a replacement.

WHAT TO EXPECT

In the first year, most of the action will be underground as your tree establishes its root system. Your tree should be green and leafy, but you won't see much new growth. In the second growing season, your tree will form new branches and leaves and should look generally happy and healthy. Your tree should begin to take off in the third year and produce more new limbs and foliage. Keep in mind that some trees are late to show new growth in the spring, and you may not see leaves until the end of May.



For more information about how to care for your trees or how to get in touch with an official arborist, visit our website: www.nashvilletreeconservationcorps.org