



## BAREROOT PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

**Step 1:** Dig a hole as deep and a little wider than the pot. Most perennials should be planted at the same depth as they are in their containers.

**Step 2:** Carefully remove the plant from its pot by holding one hand over the soil and tapping the bottom of the pot. Squeezing the pot can help loosen the root ball from the pot. Don't pull on the plant or you may damage the stem.

**Step 3:** Place the root ball into the planting hole, double-checking to be sure that the top of the root ball is even with the soil surface. Then backfill the hole with soil, gently firming it as you go.

**Step 4:** Water the soil thoroughly, then apply a 2" deep layer of mulch around the plant to help maintain soil moisture and control weeds. Keep the mulch a few inches away from the plant stem to prevent rot.

### ONGOING CARE

- Apply water as necessary to keep soil moist but not soaking wet. Even drought-tolerant plants need to be watered weekly until their roots get established. Apply a 2" to 3" layer of organic mulch, like shredded bark or pine straw, after planting to help conserve soil moisture and prevent weeds. Keep the mulch a few inches away from plant stems to prevent rot.
- Be patient; it may take weeks or even a month for the new growth to emerge from the soil. How quickly the plant grows depends on several factors, including the type of plant, degree of dormancy and temperature of the soil.
- "Deadhead" flowering plants by removing spent flowers. This encourages the plant to produce more blooms; it also helps bulbs to replenish the energy stored in their bulbs/ roots.
- Tall, top-heavy plants may need staking or another type of support to keep them from falling over from the weight of the flowers. Removing spent blooms will encourage some perennials to continue blooming.