PLANTING GUIDE:

STEP 1) First, decide on a planting location. Consider carefully what kind of sun, soil, and growing-space your tree or shrub will need.

STEP 2) Once you've located the perfect spot, the hole you are digging must be at least double the width and as deep as the root system you are planting.

STEP 3) The top of the root system should be level with the ground. Before placing the tree or shrub in the hole, use your hands to gently break up the root system.

STEP 4) Once the tree is in place, backfill the hole with native soil and any leftover potting material.

STEP 5) Pack down the soil to eliminate any air pockets.

STEP 6) When finished, water thoroughly.

(continued below)
PLANTING CARE:

Tree grows in the shade; tree grows in full sun. Tree tolerates slightly alkaline; acidic; clay; loam; and sandy soil. This small tree tends to leaf out early, so it may be injured by spring frosts. Make sure to plant in an area where there is lots of room for the tree to grow. Create a 3-4 inch layer of mulch leaving room between the mulch and the tree's trunk. Water regularly after planting. Fertilize in spring and summer, and prune in late summer or early fall. Leaves can scorch in hot summer weather unless they are in some shade or irrigated during dry weather. More direct sun can be tolerated in the northern part of the range. Be sure drainage is maintained, and never allow water to stand around the roots. Japanese maples grow well on clay soils as long as the ground is sloped so that water does not accumulate in the soil. They respond well to several inches of mulch placed beneath the canopy. Be sure to clear all turf away from beneath the branches of low-growing types so lawn mowers will not damage the tree. Train the trunks and branches so that they will not touch each other.