

Planting and Care Guide for Shrubs and Trees

Planting:

Choose a location that meets the light and soil requirements for your plant(s). Dig a hole 2-3 times wider than the container but just deep enough for the top to sit level with the ground. Remove the root ball from the container, gently loosen any tightly packed roots and place it in the hole. Add an appropriate slow-release fertilizer if desired according to package directions. Backfill the hole with native soil or garden soil and tamp firmly but gently. Water thoroughly, adding soil if necessary, and mulch around the trunk generously. Be sure to research your plant's space needs and growth patterns for the best chance of success.

Growing:

If planting in the fall or early winter, water weekly or twice weekly as the weather dictates (more frequently in warm dry weather, less in colder temperatures or with precipitation) for at least 4 weeks. Mulch heavily and cover especially tender plants during freezing temperatures for best results if possible. Wait to fertilize until the chance of freezing passes in the spring. Spring plantings do not need to be mulched as heavily but may require more frequent watering as the roots become established during warmer weather. Fertilize in the spring and fall for the best growth with a balanced fertilizer meant for trees and shrubs. Wait until any blooms pass to prune flowering shrubs and trees; evergreen shrubs and trees can be pruned in early spring to enhance and encourage proper growth patterns. Once roots are established, watering can be decreased unless drought conditions are present.

Enjoy the new addition to your landscape!

