

Care of Newly Planted Trees & Shrubs

General Guidelines for Planting Trees and Shrubs:

1. Dig hole 2-3 times the width of the pot or root ball.
2. Dig hole slightly shallower than the depth of the root ball.
3. Mix existing soil 50-50 with Bumper Crop, Posey Power, or topsoil.
4. Mulch with 2" of our hardwood or pine mulch.
5. Should you choose, consider staking young trees and/or use tree guard to protect your plants from wildlife.

Watering:

- Watering is the single most important maintenance factor in the care of newly transplanted trees and shrubs.
- Newly planted trees and shrubs may need to be watered regularly for 2-3 years until their root systems become established. Large trees may take longer.
- Thorough watering at regular intervals is critical throughout the first growing season.
- A good rule of thumb is 1" of water per week
- Deep, slow watering for longer periods of time is necessary to allow the water to penetrate to the depth of the root ball. This can be accomplished by using any of the following techniques:
 - Hoses - should be turned on at a slow trickle and placed at the base of the tree or shrub. This can run for 30 minutes or longer depending on the size of the plant, weather conditions, soil type and site drainage. Soaker hoses, when placed at the base of the plant, can be left to run for several hours. The duration is also dependant on the above factors.
 - Water Bags - zip around the trunk or place around the base of a tree and fill with water. It will slowly release water over a period of hours to penetrate to the root ball.
- A Starter Fertilizer - use a starter fertilizer like Espoma Bio-tone at the time of planting.
- A layer of good mulch around the tree or shrub will help conserve moisture and discourage weed growth.

STRADER'S
GARDEN CENTERS

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