

HELPFUL TIPS



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Plants
- Soil conditioner
- Espoma® Organic® Bio-Tone® Starter Plus
- Mulch
- Shovel
- Knife or pruners
- Wheelbarrow, tarp, or bucket
- Water source

HOW MUCH SUN/SHADE DO I GET?

Full sun is 6+ hours of sun. Shade is 4 hours or less of sun. Between 4 and 6 hours of sun would be considered part sun/shade.

SOIL CONDITIONS:

Always plant in well drained soil. To test for soil drainage, dig a hole for your new plant and fill it with water. If water doesn't drain in 12 hours, the soil will need to be amended dramatically to help with drainage. There are plants that can tolerate seasonal standing water. Please speak with someone in our nursery department about plants for the environment and soil conditions.

CAN I WATER IT?

Make sure you can get a hose or watering can to the planted area.

DO DEER COME INTO MY YARD?

Consider plants that are deer resistant or ask advice on protecting your plants from deer damage.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP WITH PLANT SELECTION:

While we don't offer landscape design, we have knowledgeable team members to help you select the right plant for the right location. We carry a wide variety of trees, shrubs, roses, ornamental grasses, and perennials with new shipments weekly in season.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you suspect a problem with your tree or shrub, bring a sample of the issue, along with photos of the whole tree or shrub and the base of the plant, to Strader's for diagnosis and suggested remedies.

DELIVERY & INSTALLATION SERVICES

Tree and shrub installation and Driveway Drop-off services are available for select material purchased at Strader's Garden Centers. Visit straders.net to contact your local store for pricing details.

OUR GUARANTEE & PLANT REPLACEMENT WARRANTY

Our primary goal at Strader's is the complete satisfaction of all gardeners who choose us for their plant purchases. We strive to offer premium quality plants that are healthy and vigorous when they are purchased. Please call for advice as soon as possible if your plant begins to look unhealthy. Many serious problems can be solved if caught early.

Trees and shrubs carry a 1 year, one time replacement warranty, while roses carry a 90 day warranty, provided they are properly installed in the ground in the appropriate location and reasonable care has been given. **There is no warranty on plants sold at 50% off. No warranty will be granted on unplanted material or items planted in containers. There is no warranty from November 1 – March 1 on trees and shrubs.**

The plant must be determined dead due to natural causes by our management staff. Strader's Garden Centers reserves the right to refuse credit due to obvious neglect: lack of water, improper care, animal damage, or extreme weather events.

The plant must be returned with the original cash register receipt. No other proof of purchase will be accepted.

There will be no cash refund on dead plants. Strader's will issue a **PLANT REPLACEMENT CARD** for the value that was paid. This card can be used toward a replacement tree or shrub. Replacement plants carry no warranty.

Plants that are installed by Strader's carry a 1 year warranty for the plant and cost of installation. This value will be put onto a **Plant Replacement Card** for you to use for new trees or shrubs and installation.

ALL ANNUALS, TROPICALS, PERENNIALS, HIBISCUS, BUTTERFLY BUSHES, VINES, GRASSES, WATER PLANTS, HOUSEPLANTS, AND DELIVERY FEES HAVE NO WARRANTY.

STRADER'S

GARDEN CENTERS

TREE & SHRUB

PLANTING GUIDE



COLUMBUS' BEST SELECTION
OF LOCALLY GROWN PLANTS
STRADERS.NET

FOR LOCATIONS & COMPLETE GUARANTEE
DETAILS, VISIT: STRADERS.NET  



PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS

THE PLANT



Trees and shrubs generally come in two forms: balled and burlapped (B&B) or containerized. Both can be planted anytime the ground is not frozen or too wet. It is advantageous to the health of your tree or shrub if you plant it immediately after purchase. If you can't plant

it right away, place it in a shady and/or sheltered location. Keep the root ball or container moist until planting time just like we do in the nursery.

THE PLANTING HOLE

Dig your planting hole 2-3 times the width and slightly shallower than the depth of the pot or root ball.



Mix the excavated soil 50/50 with a soil amendment such as **Bumper Crop**®, **Posey Power**™, or **Organic Valley**® Topsoil.



To ensure a perfect planting environment, add **Espoma**® Bio-tone® Starter, a bioactive plant food with beneficial bacteria and humates.

PLACING YOUR PLANT IN THE HOLE

BALLED & BURLAPPED PLANTS:

Once the enriched soil has been placed ¾ of the way up the root ball, cut and fold down the top ¼ of the basket and burlap, and remove any strings around the tree trunk. Fill the remaining hole with enriched soil to its original level.



CONTAINER PLANTS:

Ease the pot off without disturbing the root ball. You will then need to make a few shallow cuts on the side and bottom of the root ball and loosen the roots. Don't be afraid, you will not hurt the roots!



WATERING YOUR NEW PLANT

Watering is the single most important maintenance factor in the care of newly transplanted trees and shrubs. Most plant deaths are a result of improper watering. The roots of newly planted plants dry out faster than the soil around them. It takes at least a year before their roots grow out and can properly access the moisture in the surrounding soil. 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.

DO NOT solely rely on rain or a sprinkler system as a means of watering new plants. Thorough watering at regular intervals is critical throughout the first growing season. A newly planted tree or shrub will probably need to be watered every two days, depending on weather conditions. 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 a:

- **Hose** at a slow trickle, placed at the base of the tree or shrub, can run for 30 minutes or longer depending on the size of the plant, weather conditions, soil type, and site drainage.
- **Melnor**® Soaker Hose at the base of the plant, can be left to run for several hours, dependent on the above factors.
- **Water Bag** filled with water at the base of the plant will slowly release water over a period of hours to penetrate to the root ball.



General Slow Watering Guidelines for Clay Soil:

For smaller trees and shrubs: Trickle water for approximately 10-45 minutes, depending on the size of the original container.

For larger trees and shrubs: Trickle water for approximately 50-70 minutes, depending on the size of the original container.

Remember, if it rains for 1 hr, it probably was not enough water for a newly planted tree or shrub.



MULCHING

Add a 2-3" layer of hardwood or pine mulch around the plant. This will prevent water loss, discourage weed growth, and help keep mowers and trimmers from getting too

close to the plant. Avoid overly deep mulch up against the trunk or stems of the plant as this can promote disease or pest injury.

STAKING

If needed, stake trees with an **Eaton Brothers Tree Stake Kit** to keep them straight. Never leave trees staked for more than 2 years. Allow for some movement even when staked.



FERTILIZING

To ensure the health of the plant as it establishes in the landscape, fertilize your tree or shrub every six months with the **Espoma**® Plant-Tone® or **Holly-Tone**®.



ANIMAL & INSECT PROTECTION

We carry many different remedies to prevent damage caused by pests and unwanted animals. We recommend **Liquid Fence**® Deer & Rabbit Repellent, which repels deer, rabbits, etc. from the landscape. Simply follow directions according to the label.



Protect the trunks of young trees from male deer rubbing their antlers against the bark to remove their velvet by wrapping or fencing off the trunk. Any wrap used will need to be removed in the spring and reapplied in the fall.

To combat insects, we recommend **Ferti-lome**® Tree & Shrub Drench for long lasting systemic control. This is useful for shade or flowering trees after they bloom. Simply follow application directions according to the label.

