

Greenfield Plant Farm

Watering and planting guidelines for new plantings

The best time to water is early morning. Avoid evening watering. If evening watering is necessary, try to finish 2 hours before dusk.

The need for watering is dependent on the rainfall the plants receive, temperature, and wind. Plants transpire (lose water) more quickly when temps are high (above 80 degrees) and during windy conditions. A general rule of thumb is that plants will do well if they receive 1" of rain (or supplemental water) every 7-10 days. It is a good idea to place a rain gauge somewhere in your yard to measure rainfall amounts.

If we have temperatures above 80 degrees and no rainfall, watering may be required 3X per week.

With Ball & Burlap trees, always remove any plastic rope. Leave the burlap and natural fiber twine in tact. The burlap & twine are vital for root ball protection during transport and the planting process.

In our heavy soils, it is smart to plant trees and shrubs high. Always keep the trunk flare well above the soil level.

If planting a container tree, we suggest staking your tree for the first 4-6 weeks after planting.

Six things you should know when planting a tree.



1. Call Before You Dig - Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. Handle with Care - Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. Digging a Proper Hole - Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. Planting Depth - The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the top-most roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. Filling the Hole - Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. Mulch - Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit arborday.org.

Source:  **Arbor Day Foundation**
90075201