

## **Woody Plant Material Warranty**

Trees and Shrubs are guaranteed for one year, when proper care is given.

Please call at the **first sign** of plant stress. This will enable us to determine how to save your plant.

If a plant dies, bring the plant and the register receipt back for replacement with the same or similar species.

Any plant we install has a full one year guarantee.

Excluded from the guarantee are: Wholesale customers, material planted by a third party, sale items, grasses, perennials, roses, annuals, greenhouse plants, azalea, end of the year clearance, living Christmas trees, and fruiting shrubs.

We reserve the right to charge a handling fee of 15% on merchandise returned in good condition.



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## **Tree and Shrub Planting and Care Guide**



## **Woody Plant Material Warranty**

# Planting Instructions

## Site Preparation

Dig the planting hole so that it is no deeper than the height of the root ball, measured from the trunk flare to the bottom of the rootball. The width of the hole should be approximately three times as wide as the root ball.

## Setting the Plant

Carefully set the plant in the hole so that the trunk flare is 1"-2" above the existing soil line. Once the plant is set in the hole, remove any burlap, wire, rope or plastic. If the plant is in a container, remove the container, then set the plant so that the existing soil line is level with the top of the root ball.

## Backfilling the Hole

Mix 1-part existing soil with one part peat moss, compost or bagged soil and fill the hole halfway. Water the soil and allow it to drain. Resume backfilling, then water again thoroughly.

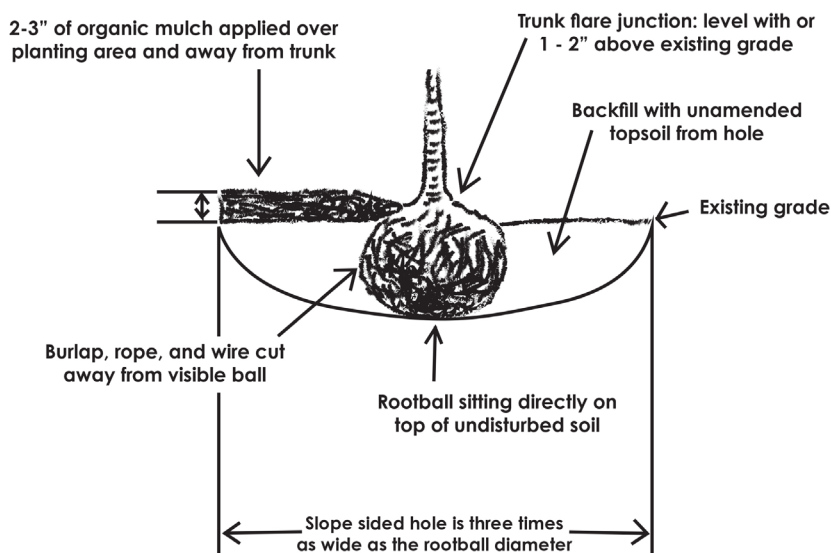
## Care

### Fertilizing & Liming

Newly planted trees & shrubs should be planted with starter fertilizers only. (A slow-release organic fertilizer may be applied if there is a nutrient deficiency in the soil.) Limestone should be added to the backfill mixture if a soil test has revealed the soil pH to be inappropriate for the plant.

### Mulching

Mulching around the tree or shrub helps to reduce weeds, moderate soil moisture and temperature, and add aesthetic appeal. Mulch should be applied to the entire planting area at a depth of no more than 2" - 3", tapering to 1" - 2" over the rootball. Never allow mulch to touch or cover the trunk as it can cause decay which invites insects and disease to enter.



Deborah Swanson - "Guideline for Planting Trees and Shrubs" (Feb. 2016)

# Best Watering Practices

## Hydration Goals

The goal in watering is to keep the rootball and surrounding soil moist but not soggy. How much water to apply and how often depends on many factors including soil type, weather, location, etc.

## Yeah! But How?

Slow, deep waterings are best. What we mean by this is that you should use either a soaker hose, or a garden hose at a trickle. Water this way for at least twenty minutes.

The goal is to train the roots to go downward in search of water, rather than growing just near the surface.

This will help your plant to better withstand drought and other environmental stressors.

## How Do I Know I've Done Enough?

Gauging proper hydration during inclement weather can be confusing as well.

You may think that all is okay because it rained; digging into the ground can show you that, just under the soil surface, the ground can be powdery dry. This is because pouring rain tends to run off, rather than soaking in.

As a general guideline, new plants should be watered every day of the first week and three times per week for the remainder of the first growing season.

During the second season, plants should be watered two to three times per week from mid-April through October.

Top Tip: Moisture meters are often helpful in determining water needs; that is, if like us, you have no desire to dig holes in order to know your level of soil hydration!