

### Planting recommendations:

There are many ways to plant with similarities and differences. The goal is to have consistency with our planters.

From our experience this works. Your participation improves it. Give us feedback please. If you aren't planting right away, place tree rootballs in puddles if possible.

- a. Dig holes approximately 3' wide x 1.5' deep. Make sides of hole not smooth with shovel.
- b. Make a mound of soil in bottom of hole. Place tree fertilizer in top portion of mound. Cover fertilizer with 1" of soil.
- d. If you have container trees, break-up the outer roots a bit with you hands, before putting in hole so the roots are spread out. If you have a burlap rootball, place rootball in hole then, CUT TWINE FROM AROUND TRUNK OF TREE. (A box cutter 'knife' is best for cutting twine around base of trunk of tree but be careful not to damage trunk of tree.) Do not pull burlap from rootball, leave rootball intact. If you have rootball that has plastic twine, you can remove twine but leave burlap around rootball. If you have natural twine, leave it on rootball, just remove from trunk of tree, twine will biodegrade.
- e. It is strongly recommended that you amend your soil so approximately is 50% bark mulch and/or compost. Fill hole to 2" below top of hole. Make sure rootball has less than one inch of soil on top of it. (The roots need to breathe.) The unfilled top part of the hole is a 'water well' so water collects. (Mulch can be put on top but not so it's higher than ground level.)
- f. Water immediately, about five gallons is enough.
- g. Stake with two stakes outside of roots and fasten with wire and rubber.
- h. Water within one week again, even in winter, if not near 32 degrees at night.
- i. Water again during the dry spells in spring and hot spells in Summer. When it's the hottest days in summer think of these trees wanting water. They can use one or two applications of around ten gallons during dry/hot spells. The more you water your tree the better chance of survival. They grow more the more water they get, there is no such thing as too much water.
- j. Two years after planting, remove stakes and bury 4 tree fertilizer tablets at edge of hole.
- k. You don't need to water in third year unless it's a drought or you want trees to grow faster.

