

Planting Guidelines:

Have your soil tested through the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service to determine the needs of your soil prior to planting.

Match the plant to its location. Be aware of drainage, light levels, salt spray and other factors that can affect the growth of your plant. Be sure you are aware of the mature size of the plant before choosing a location.

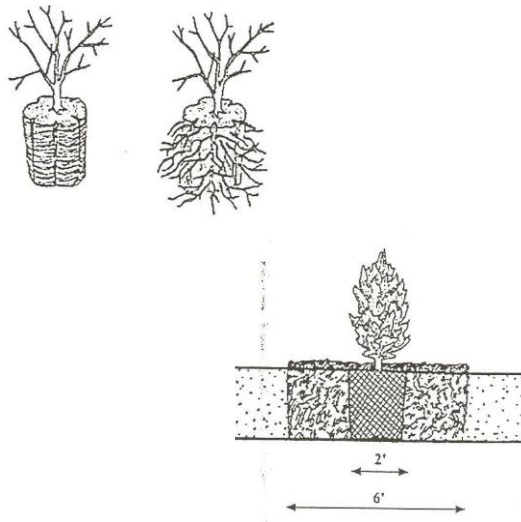
Dig a hole at least 2-3 times bigger than the diameter of the rootball. Making the hole as wide as possible will allow roots to grow quickly into the loosened soil and speed up the plants establishment. Fertilome Root Stimulator should be used to water in your plants after transplanting and once a week for the first 2 or 3 weeks. A slow release fertilizer such as Fertilome Start n Grow or Osmocote may also be used.

When planting multiple plants in a bed, incorporate fertilizer, lime and any other soil amendments needed into the entire bed and till.



Slip the plant out of the pot and examine the rootball. Trees or shrubs growing in containers may have roots circling around the outside of the rootball. You should encourage roots to grow along the entire length of the rootball. To do this, take a knife and lightly score the rootball in 3 or 4 places around the rootball. Make shallow cuts from the top to the bottom of the rootball. Gently spread the roots apart. New roots should grow from the cuts around the rootball.

When planting balled and burlaped material, remove any wire or twine and cut away as much of the wrapping material as possible after placing it in the hole. Remove synthetic burlap entirely; it will not break down and will ultimately strangle the roots.



Plant even with or slightly above the surrounding soil. Place the plant in the hole for fit. Lay your shovel across the hole. The rootball should be even with or slightly above the handle. If you got carried away and dug the hole too deep, shovel some soil back in and pack it firmly with your feet to prevent the plant from later settling below ground level. That can cause the roots to suffocate. In slowly draining soils, set the rootball an inch or two higher than the surrounding soil and cover it with soil.

Start backfilling the planting hole. When filling the hole, mix approximately 1/3 Black Kow, 1/3 thoroughly moistened peat moss, and 1/3 existing soil. Pack the soil lightly as you go. When half the rootball is covered, add some water mixed with Fertilome Root Stimulator, to settle out any air pockets and remoisten the rootball. Finish backfilling and water again with the Root Stimulator mixture. Two more watering a week apart with the Fertilome Root Stimulator in addition to regular watering will help your plant get off to a good start.

Apply 2 to 4 inches of organic mulch such as pine bark or pine straw. Leave a space of 3 inches or more around the trunk to keep the bark dry.



Trees and shrubs generally take up to two years to become fully established in the landscape and may require supplemental watering during that time, especially if we are getting less than an inch of rain per week. For newly planted trees and shrubs, water deeply to soak the entire rootball at least 1 to 2 times a week during the cooler months and possibly every day for the first 2-3 weeks during the hotter months. After that begin cutting back to an “as needed” basis by testing the soil and rootball for moisture.

Fertilizing:

Plants may be fertilized one to two times per year with Ferti-lome Tree & Shrub Food in the Spring and Ferti-lome Winterizer in the Fall.

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Planting Guide



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