



TREE CARE & PLANTING GUIDE

*HOW TO CARE FOR &
MAINTAIN YOUR TREES*

PLANTING

YOUR TREE OR SHRUB WILL
COME IN ONE OF TWO FORMS:

**BALLED AND BURLAPPED
OR CONTAINERIZED.**



IF THE SOIL IS MOIST AND
KEPT SUFFICIENTLY WATERED,
PLANTING CAN BE DONE ANYTIME
THE GROUND IS NOT FROZEN.
PLANT THE TREE OR SHRUB AS SOON
AS YOU GET IT HOME. IF YOU CAN'T
PLANT IT IMMEDIATELY, PLACE IT IN A
SHADY OR SHELTERED LOCATION AND
KEEP IT MOIST UNTIL YOU PLANT IT.



When planting container plants, you must
remove the plant from the container and
gently loosen the root mass.

When planting balled and burlapped plantings,
it is important to handle them carefully and
be sure to keep the root ball intact. **DO
NOT** remove the wire basket, twine or burlap,
as these items will naturally decay.

If you have any materials such as nylon, this
must be removed as it will not naturally decay.
It may be necessary to amend the soil,
especially for shrubs and flower beds.

BEFORE DIGGING, MIX TOP SOIL OR SPHAGNUM PEAT WITH YOUR EXISTING SOIL. DIG A WIDE, SHALLOW HOLE. PLACE THE PLANT IN THE HOLE SO THAT 1/3 OF THE ROOT MASS IS ABOVE GROUND LEVEL. ADD ESPOMA BIO-TONE INTO THE HOLE. FILL HOLE AND WATER THOROUGHLY. ONCE SOIL IS SETTLED, ADD A LAYER OF MULCH. CLAY SOILS TEND NOT TO DRAIN WELL. THEY REQUIRE CLOSE MONITORING OF YOUR WATERING PROCEDURES.

CLAY SOIL

SANDY SOIL

BEFORE DIGGING, MIX PEAT WITH THE EXISTING SOIL. DIG A HOLE THAT IS WIDE; ITS DEPTH MUST BE EQUAL TO THE HEIGHT OF THE ROOT MASS. PLACE THE PLANT IN THE HOLE SO THAT THE TOP OF THE ROOT MASS IS AT GROUND LEVEL. ADD ESPOMA BIO-TONE INTO HOLE. FILL HOLE AND WATER THOROUGHLY. ONCE THE SOIL IS SETTLED, ADD A LAYER OF MULCH. SANDY SOILS DO NOT HOLD MOISTURE WELL AND MAY REQUIRE FREQUENT WATERING.

BEFORE DIGGING, MIX PEAT MOSS OR MANURE WITH YOUR EXISTING SOIL. DIG A HOLE THAT IS WIDE; ITS DEPTH EQUAL TO THE HEIGHT OF THE ROOT MASS. PLACE PLANT IN THE HOLE SO THAT THE TOP OF THE ROOT MASS IS AT GROUND LEVEL. ADD ESPOMA BIO-TONE INTO THE HOLE. FILL HOLE AND WATER THOROUGHLY. ONCE THE SOIL IS SETTLED, ADD A LAYER OF MULCH.

TOP SOIL

WATERING

WATER YOUR NEWLY PLANTED TREE OR SHRUB BY USING A SLOW, DEEP WATERING METHOD. ALWAYS MONITOR YOUR PLANTS CAREFULLY.

BALLED AND BURLAPPED AND CONTAINER PLANT ROOTS DRY OUT FASTER THAN THE SOIL AROUND THEM, SO IT IS IMPORTANT TO MONITOR THEIR MOISTURE. WATER SLOWLY TO ATTAIN DEEP WATER PENETRATION, WHICH ENCOURAGES WIDESPREAD ROOT DEVELOPMENT.

TOO MUCH WATER CAN BE JUST AS HARMFUL AS NOT ENOUGH.

1-2 WEEKS AFTER PLANTING

WATER DAILY.

3-12 WEEKS AFTER PLANTING

WATER EVERY 2 TO 3 DAYS.

AFTER 12 WEEKS

WATER WEEKLY UNTIL ROOTS ARE ESTABLISHED.

NEW PLANTINGS REQUIRE ONE INCH OF RAINFALL EVERY 7 TO 10 DAYS.

DON'T COUNT ON MOTHER NATURE!

A BRIEF SHOWER MAY NOT BE ENOUGH WATER FOR YOUR NEW PLANTING. REMEMBER HOT DAYS DRY OUT PLANTS QUICKER THAN COOL DAYS. WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE 80° OR ABOVE DURING THE SUMMER IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO WATER EVERY DAY.

When installing your plants, use a root-stimulating fertilizer, such as Espoma Bio-tone, to make sure your plants get off to a great start and to ensure success.

Make sure you monitor your new plant's water needs for the first two growing seasons.

Also, automatic irrigation systems may not be sufficient to water initially. Water newly planted trees and shrubs with a garden hose in addition to an irrigation system.

Watering frequency will vary according to season, exposure and plant size.



Fruit Tree Care Instructions

Pruning is an essential task in order to promote growth in the desired directions. Taking off the vertical branches that grow every year is the most basic instruction.

Fruit thinning is an essential process done during the summer when trees begin fruiting. It involves picking off the smaller fruit in the clusters to allow the energy to be diverted to the largest apples/fruit. This process also helps reduce limb breakage.

Spraying with an all-purpose fruit tree spray once a month after the blossoms fall off will help prevent diseases, funguses and insect infestations.

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