

Tree Care Guide

- Protect the package of trees from direct sunlight, heat and wind. Keep cool (35-50°F) and in a moist place. Lightly sprinkle with water every couple days if not planted immediately.
- Plant trees as soon as possible. Do not store more than 5 days. If planting will not happen within 5 days, remove the trees from package and heel them in a trench, covering the roots with soil. Keep the soil moist. A shady area works best.
- When planting, carry the trees in a pail with a few inches of water. Do not stand trees in water over 2 hours.
- Dig a hole as deep and wide as the tree root system. Breakup soil clods. Only go as deep as the roots, since most roots grow outward.
- If roots are too long or broken, cut them off. They should not “fold” in the bottom of the hole.
- The root collar of the tree should be at ground level when planted. Spread out roots so that they do not encircle and girdle the tree as it grows.
- Face the tree so low branches face south. This shades the bark and protects from sun scald.
- If amending the soil, use at least half native soil, so that roots are encouraged to grow outward.
- When planting, tamp the soil firmly around the roots to avoid air pockets, this can greatly affect survival.
- Put wood/bark mulch, down around the tree to help hold moisture and reduce weeds. Keep it 3-4 inches away from the trunk to prevent disease.
- Water trees thoroughly after planting. Watering trees weekly in dry weather will help ensure survival.