

PLANTING GUIDE...

MORE INFO Additional
PLANT CARE RESOURCES
available on our website



1. DIG the hole 2-3 times as wide as the diameter of the rootball.
2. DO NOT PLANT TOO DEEP! The hole should be the CURRENT DEPTH or SLIGHTLY LESS than the soil level in the container or burlap ball. **Depending on the soil type—plant as deep (or slightly less deep in poorly drained soils) as the height of the ROOTBALL.**
3. MIX no more than 10% of the backfill with compost, peat moss or other organic matter to help improve soil quality—BLEND WELL!
4. Occasionally, staking may be required when planting on a slope, in sandy soil or in a windy, exposed location.
5. Add a 2-3" layer of mulch around the plant (NEVER against the base of the trunk or over the crown). This helps reduce water stress by retaining moisture as well as regulating soil temperature in winter and controlling competition from grass and weeds.
6. Newly planted trees, shrubs and perennials need special water attention for at least the first full year after planting. Once established supplemental watering may be needed in periods of drought.
*see Watering Tips

NOTE Learn the type of soil in your yard, how it drains or holds water during each season. If your home was constructed in the past five years, your soil may be heavy, compacted clay that doesn't drain and watering times and frequency should be reduced by half. Dig a test hole 12" deep and wide and fill with water. If the hole doesn't fully drain within 15 minutes, you may have drainage problems that can lead to root rot.

* Know what's below!

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

RECOMMENDED Soil Amendments...

One-Step Soil Conditioner

Cotton Burr Compost

Peat Moss

Espoma
Biotone Starter

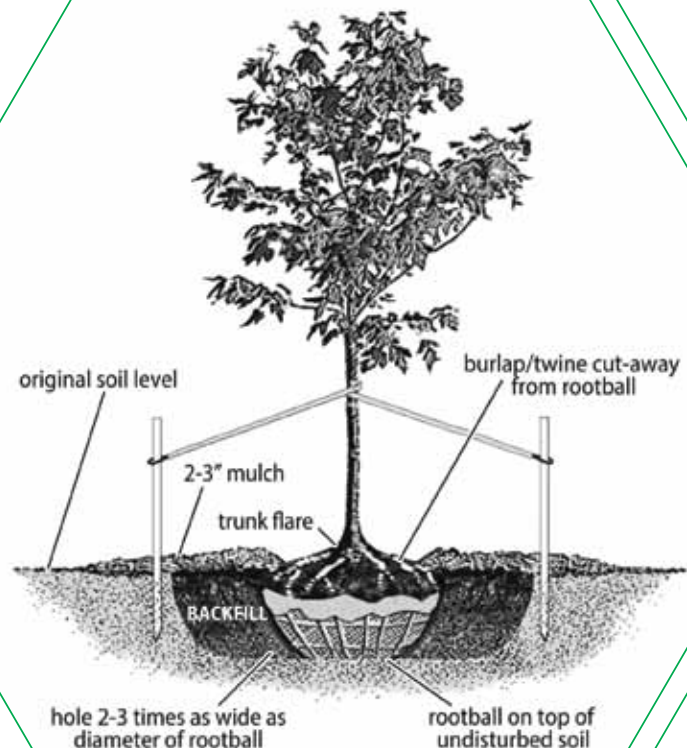


Bonide
Root & Grow



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WATERING TIPS...

THE GOLDEN RULE Avoid a watering "routine."
NEVER water without checking the soil first to see if watering is actually needed!

1. WATER STRESS can result from either **TOO MUCH** or **TOO LITTLE** water, and is the #1 cause of poor plant growth and even death. **KEEP IN MIND: symptoms of either type of water stress can look very similar.**
2. The type of newly planted trees, shrubs or perennials plus the time of year and temperature are all factors in determining how much water each plant will need.
 - a. **Learn the TYPE OF SOIL in your yard, how it drains or holds water.**
3. Water the soil at the base of the plant where the roots are. **AVOID USING OVERHEAD SPRINKLERS**, except when watering lawns. Soaker hoses or spot irrigation is most effective, efficient and economical.
4. Avoid shallow rooted, wilt-prone plants and mildewed foliage with these TWO RULES when watering:
 - a. Water slowly and deeply rather than frequently and shallowly, to encourage deep root growth. **Allow soil to dry slightly between watering**, this will encourage roots to reach for water.
 - b. **Water the ground not the air or leaves.** Very dry soil is slow to take up water so you may need to water one plant, go to the next and come back to previous to be sure the water is able to soak in.

Most trees and shrubs should receive 1" to 1.5" (5-10 gallons) of water per week during the growing season. If the plants do not receive rain, manual watering should be provided. Typically a garden hose on low to medium pressure, on shower setting, will take about 5 minutes to produce 10 gallons of water.

VOLUME & FREQUENCY (Priority: volume **OVER** frequency...)

Trees & Shrubs: HINT—Use a rain gauge! **KEEP IN MIND:** It's an ART *and* a science.

Amount each watering: 2-3 minutes with hose on low to medium shower at base or 1-1.5 hours with soaker hose

First month: Check soil moisture daily by hand or moisture meter (water 2-3 times per week)

First & second season: 1 time per week for the remainder of the growing season

Perennials: HINT—Use a rain gauge! **KEEP IN MIND:** It's an ART *and* a science.

Amount each watering: 30 seconds-1 minute with hose on low shower at base or 30-45 minutes with soaker hose

First 2 weeks: Check soil moisture daily (water 3-4 times per week)

First & second season: 1 time per week for the remainder of the growing season

NOTE *It is very important for your new plantings to be watered regularly. However, the TYPE OF SOIL and the WEATHER CONDITIONS should determine how frequently and how much you water. Never water automatically or without first checking the soil to determine if watering is needed. To do this, use a trowel to test the moisture of your soil about 4-6 inches deep. If you find it is dry or only slightly damp, the plant should be watered. Sandy soils generally will need to be watered more frequently than clay soils*

REMEMBER TO GIVE ALL PLANTS A DEEP WATERING JUST PRIOR TO THE GROUND FREEZING (around Thanksgiving), REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE!

RECOMMENDED WATERING TOOLS

Miniature Irrigation Systems
Deep Root Feeder
Tree Watering Bag
Watering Wand
Soaker Hoses
Rain Gauge



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