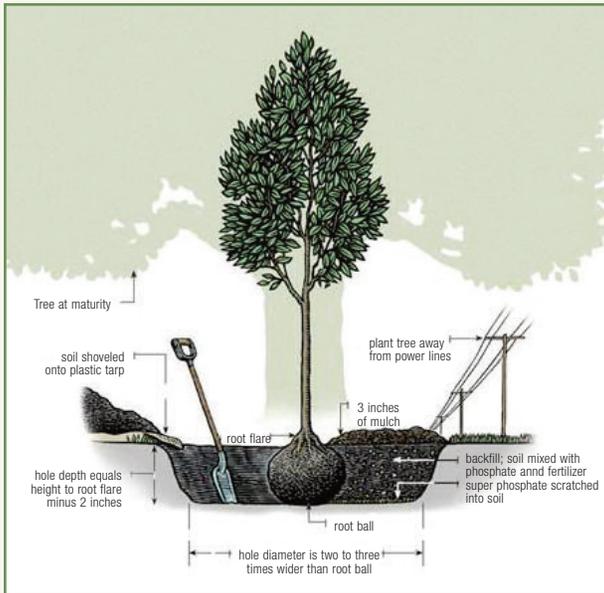


Plant Care

Watering: Plants should be slowly soaked to a depth of 4 inches, which is about an inch of water per week. This is necessary during the first year or two. Let the hose run slowly at the base of the plant until the water has penetrated to the root depth. Too much water can be a problem. Feel the soil. If it is wet, do not add water. Also, frequent light watering is not as good as a thorough soaking once per week.

Fertilizing: Your new plants should be given a starter fertilizer. You should not use a fertilizer meant for mature plants on new material, as it could damage your plant. It is essential for new plants to develop a healthy root system—top growth will follow. After the first season, other fertilizers can be used. For now, consider Dr. Earth, Monrovia or Espoma starter fertilizers, complete with probiotics or mycorrhizae, to help your new green friends along.

Insects & Diseases: Keep an eye out for holes or brown spots on leaves or needles. This could be a sign of insect or disease-causing fungus problems. Ask our Professional Staff for help identifying these problems and to offer a solution.

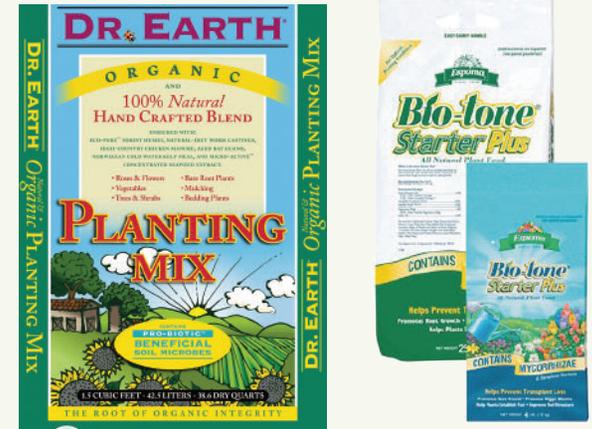


Planting B&B (Balled & Burlap) Plants: Untie the string holding the burlap against the trunk. Remove soil around the trunk until you expose the root flare (the portion of the trunk that flares out as it enters the soil). Position your tree or shrub so that the root flare sits above the grade slightly. Backfill the sides of the hole, roughly twice the size of the root ball, with your soil mix as well as about 50% of the best parts of your existing soil, taking care not to put any soil on top of the ball. All heavy clay and larger rocks should be removed at this point. Loosen the top of the burlap and cut it back to grade. If there is a wire basket holding your new tree or shrub together, do not wrestle it off. Rather, use a pair of snips to cut the top half off or fold it over and into the hole. Thoroughly water your new plant with a slow soaking. This will settle the soil and prevent air pockets. Apply a two-inch layer of mulch, on top of the root ball, being mindful not to have the mulch touch the bark of the tree or shrub. Avoid mulch volcanoes! Check your new plant material at least twice a week for water for the first growing season! Should your new plant require staking, use substantial stakes and arbor tie.

Planting Container Grown Shrubs: Remove the plant from the container. When plants are grown in containers the roots, sometimes, may be restricted by the shape of the container. Loosen the roots all the way around the plant as well as underneath. If the root system is too tight to loosen with your fingers, cut through the roots, gingerly, with a knife or pruning shears. Center the plant in the hole, being mindful to keep the root system slightly raised above the soil grade. Remember to have the hole twice as large as the root ball and back fill with a 50/50 blend. That is 50% of your new planting mix and 50% of your existing soil. All heavy clay and large rocks should be removed from the existing soil. Thoroughly water your new plant with a slow soaking. This will settle the soil and prevent air pockets. Apply a two-inch layer of mulch, on top of the root ball, being mindful not to have the mulch touch the bark of the tree or shrub. Avoid mulch volcanoes! Check your new plant material at least twice a week for water for the first growing season! Should your new plant require staking, use substantial stakes and arbor tie.

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Your new plants should be given a starter fertilizer. We recommend a combination of Dr. Earth PLanting Mix, Bio-tone Starter Plus and Monrovia Soil Amendments. It is essential for new plants to develop a healthy root system – top growth will follow. After the first season, regular fertilizers can be used.



*Look for our other
planting guides...*

- Deer Resistant Plants
- Butterfly & Hummingbird Plants
- Difficult Site Plants
- Shade Tolerant Plants
- Native Plants



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Planting Guide



How to plant
& care for trees,
shrubs & plants