

## Planting Instructions

### 1. Dig the hole

- Dig a hole two times the width of the root ball (Minimum 6" of space on each side)
- Dig hole no deeper than the depth of the root ball.
- If gravel, rocks, or sand is found, dig the hole much larger and amend with compost.

### 2. What type of soil do you have & does it drain well?

- Fill the hole with water
- If the hole drains poorly (clay soil) Drains well (loam or sandy soil)
- Make sure your plant will acclimate well if clay or very sandy soil

### 3. Prepare the Planting Mix.

(Professional opinions vary on the amount of organic matter to mix into the soil when planting, here's what we recommend.)

- Separate out sod, rocks, hardpan, etc. from excavated material and prepare planting mix as follows:

(Sandy Soil) 50% New Loam, 30% Peat Moss, 20% Composted Manure

(Loamy Soil) 65% Existing Loam, 20% Peat Moss, 15% Composted Manure

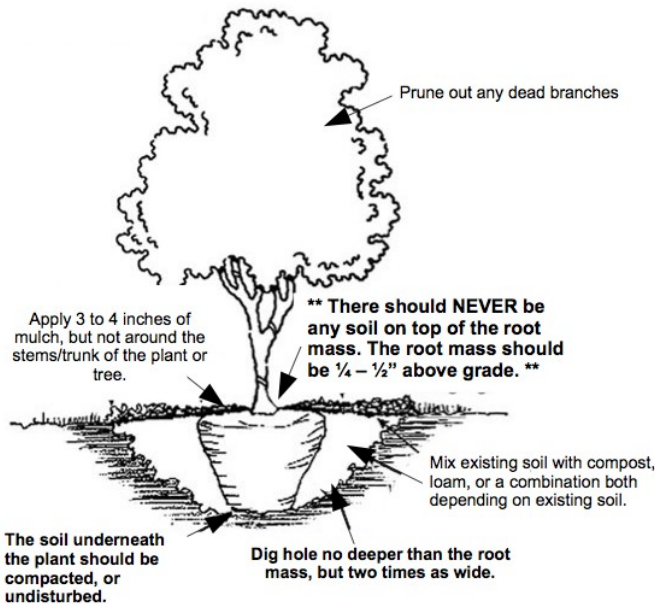
(Clay Soil) 60% Existing Clay, 10% Peat Moss, 10% Composted Manure, 20% Coarse Organic (Hemlock Blend Mulch)

### 4. Set the plant in the hole.

- Remove plastic container from plant.
- Set the plant in the hole (make sure the plant is straight).
- The top of the root ball must be flush with or  $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the ground.
- If B&B untie, fold down or cut off the top 1/3 of the burlap.
- Do not bunch the burlap or leave it showing above the ground.
- The remaining burlap will decompose and the wire basket will not harm the growth of the tree.

### 5. Backfill and water in.

- Fill hole with water and let it drain (If clay wet edges).
- Backfill  $\frac{1}{2}$  way, pack down & soak to remove air pockets.
- Make sure root ball is flush with or  $\frac{1}{4}$ " above ground level. (If not lift the plant and add loam).
- Backfill the remainder of the hole.
- Water again by placing hose 4" deep into the planting mix. Run hose at a slow trickle until saturated.
- Leave an earth saucer around the stem to collect water.



## Watering Instructions

The primary reasons for failure of landscape material are deep planting depths, overwatering, or not watering to the depth of the root ball.

### 1. Select a watering method that is best for you.

**Oscillating Sprinkler:** Leave the sprinkler on for 2.5 to 4 hours depending on spray pattern and size of root ball per section. Make sure to overlap each section.

**Impact Sprinkler:** 90 degree angle with short spray pattern, water for 1 to 2 hours. 180 degree angle water for 2 to 3 hours.

**Hose Trickle:** Place the end of your garden hose on top of the root ball and allow water to trickle at a moderate rate for .5 to 1 hour per plant depending on the root ball size.

**Soaker Hose:** Make sure water hits each root ball. Also, make sure the holes are not clogged. Let this run for 3 to 4 hours.

**Watering Can/ Buckets:** It may take 5 to 8 pails to fully water each plant to the depth of the root ball. Pour slowly and make an earth saucer around the base of the plant to catch the water.

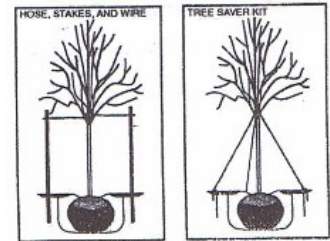
### 2. Watering Times

(Times will vary depending upon outside temperature, sun or shade, soil type, size of root ball, rainfall and a plants moisture requirements).

- Container Shrubs (1 gallon or smaller) Every 3 to 5 days.
- Container Shrubs & Trees (2 to 15 gal.) Every 7-10 days.
- Container Shrubs & Trees (20 to 45 gal.) Every 10-15 days.
- B&B Shrubs & Trees: Every 10 -14 days.

### Staking Instructions

- Stake all trees over 5 feet tall
- Use materials that won't stretch when wet. (Rope will not do!)
- Attach materials  $\frac{2}{3}$  the way up the tree. (6 feet high if you have a 9 foot tree)
- Set stakes in undisturbed earth



### Additional Notes:

- It is common when planting for branches to break and turn brown, prune them back to a live, healthy branch.
- Apply a 3" mulch layer around plants, but not against the stems of the plant.
- Spraying the foliage of a plant with water from a hose is an inefficient way to water and may increase the chance of leaves being infected with a fungus or disease problem.
- Do not try to save a stressed plant, you can drown or kill it. Call us and explain your concerns, or email a photo to [gammonlandscapenursery@roadrunner.com](mailto:gammonlandscapenursery@roadrunner.com)

**The Gammon Guarantee:** Plants are guaranteed to live under normal living conditions for one full year. The guarantee does not cover discounted or sale items, perennials, roses and a few other marginally hardy plants marked at the nursery. Plants damaged by animals, machinery, weather, neglect, overwatering, or are planted too deep are not guaranteed. RETURNS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY SALES RECEIPT AND DEAD PLANT MATERIAL. A dead plant will be replaced once, or a store credit given for the purchase price. THERE ARE NO CASH REFUNDS. Exchanges of live plant material will be accepted for up to 72 hours after purchase. NO EXCEPTIONS.