AFTER PLANTING... ...YOU NEED MULCH!

Mulch is a natural material made from shredded wood. It gives young trees the nutrients they need to grow as it breaks down into soil over time.



WATERING FOR LIFE

Young tree roots need water every week to grow deep in the ground and build a strong foundation. How much water depends on the type of tree and soil. Here are some general guidelines:



YEAR 1-3

Water soil once per week for a total of 15 gallons

YEAR 4+

Water less often; based on tree type, health, and weather

TREE SUPPORT

Trees in windy areas or with heavy fruit may need extra support as they grow. Here are some recommendations for trees that need help standing up:

CREATING A SUPPORT POST

your small, newly planted tree might not need the extra support just yet*



- Place post 1-2 feet away from tree trunk to avoid damaging bark
- Adjust or loosen ties occasionally to allow tree to move

Every so often, check & prune TREE PRUNING



ONCE A YEAR, CONSIDER PRUNING FOR:

Tree Strength Remove/shorten weak branches to create a "strong structure"

Size and Shape Control size for easier care and picking fruit

Fruity Quality Remove old fruitwood to encourage new buds and flowers to grow

Room To Grow Create space and light for fruit and leaves to grow

Friends of the Urban Forest





Caring For Your Yard Tree

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SELECTING YOUR PLANTING SITE

STEPS FOR PLANTING YOUR TREE

1) Have enough space for the roots to grow and canopy to spread:

- -Away from any overhead structures and/or power lines.
- Open spaces away from plumbing and any other underground utilities is preferred

2) Make sure to plant your tree:

- -10 ft away from buildings
- -5 ft away from underground utilities

10 ft

1) Dig the hole:

- -Twice as wide as the tree pot
- -No deeper than the tree pot

2) Remove the tree from its pot by:

- -Loosening soil by hitting side of the pot, then softly pulling out
- -Examining the root ball

3) Root pruning and root ball prep:

-Massage the root ball to decompact soil and roots



4) Planting Depth:

- -Root flare (where the first main root attaches to the trunk) should line up with ground level
- -It's better to plant higher than lower

5) Backfill

- -Mix the potting soil and native soil (if you have compost add that in as well)
- -Backfill evenly around the tree and compact with your hands

6) Mulching + creating a berm

- -Create a firm watering basin 12" to 18" from trunk of the tree (find image on back)
- -Build the mound using excess soil and mulch
- -Make sure the mulch does NOT touch the base of the trunk
- -Evenly space the rest of the mulch around the berm

7) Water after planting

- -Completely saturate root ball
- -Once planted, water weekly with 10-15 gallons, and enjoy your newly adopted tree!

