**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.

- Place mulch on top in a ring. This prevents weeds & holds water!
- Make sure there’s enough space between mulch and trunk to prevent trunk rot...
- ...and that the soil covers the roots.
- Mixing compost into soil can also give it more nutrients.

**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:

**THE BUCKET METHOD:** easy slow drip watering

- Make small hole at bottom of 5 gallon bucket, fill, drain, repeat.

**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**

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

**TREE PRUNING**

Every so often, check & prune

The 4 D's:

- **DEFECTIVE:** Remove/shorten weak branches to create a "strong structure".
- **DAMAGED:**
- **DISEASED:**
- **DEAD:**

**ONCE A YEAR, CONSIDER PRUNING FOR:**

- **Tree Strength**
- **Size and Shape**
- **Fruity Quality**
- **Room To Grow**

**CONTACT US**

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Caring For Your Yard Tree

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SELECTING YOUR PLANTING SITE

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

STEPS FOR PLANTING YOUR TREE

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!