

# TREE PLANTING

## ■ CONTAINER TYPE

Trees come in three different container types: ball and burlap (B&B), containerized, and bareroot. Each type requires a slightly different method of preparation before planting.

## ■ ROOT AND TREE PREP

Expose the trunk flare. Use your hands to remove soil from the base of the tree until you locate the first root off the trunk that is approximately the size of your pointer finger. This root should stay visible after the tree is planted.

Prune bareroot roots so that the roots can be spread out and lay mostly flat in the hole. For containerized trees, you can use a handsaw to score the outside of the root ball, making long, shallow cuts (1-2 inches) from top to bottom spaced about a hand's width apart. You can also cut a slice (1-2 inches) off the bottom of the root ball.

Remove all nursery and transportation materials from the tree. This may include string, twine, nursery stakes, tape, staples, and species tags.

## ■ PLANTING

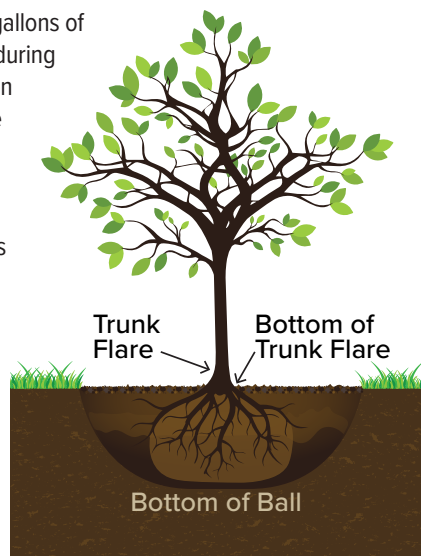
Dig a hole that is at least twice the width of the root system. The depth of the hole should be such that the trunk flare is level with the top of the hole.

Place the tree in the hole, making sure that the trunk is straight. Backfill with soil and gently tamp it down to eliminate air pockets and prevent shifting.

## ■ MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Give your tree 10 gallons of water each week during the growing season (early March – late October) until it is established, usually 1-3 years. Drought conditions may require 20 gallons a week or more. Long, slow soaks are best for encouraging strong root systems.

Apply fresh mulch once a year.



## PLANT • GROW • CARE



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## EASY TREE PLANTING & CARE TECHNIQUES



### Techniques for:

- Site Selection
- Planting
- Maintenance

# RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE

## ■ THE RIGHT PLACE TO PLANT

Before deciding what kind of tree you want to plant, first you need to determine the right place to plant it.

## ■ TREES NEED ROOM TO GROW

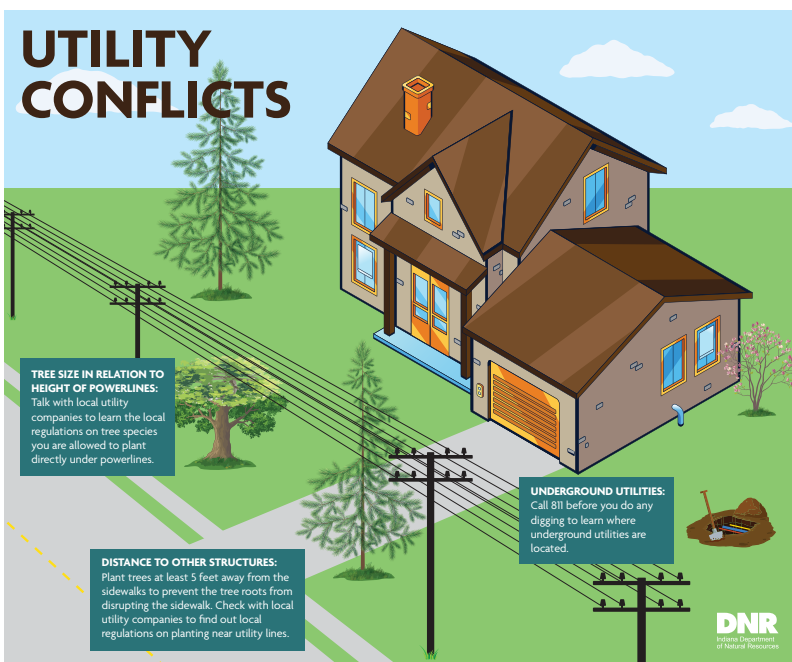
Be sure to stay away from sidewalks and home foundations when picking your planting site.

## ■ UTILITY CONFLICTS

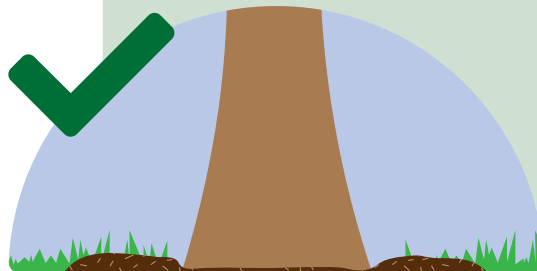
Look up, look down, look around for any potential conflicts the tree may have. Contact your local utility company for a list of compatible tree species to plant near powerlines.

## ■ CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Call 811 before you dig any holes to learn where underground utilities are located.

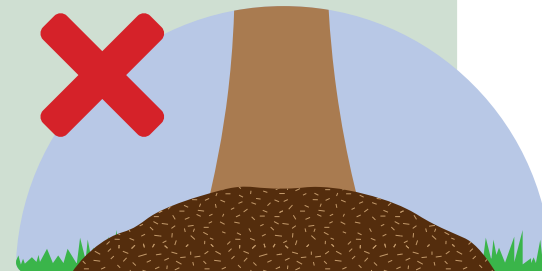


## COMMUNITY AND URBAN FORESTRY'S Guide to Mulching



### DO

- Cover with about 2-4 inches of mulch
- Spread mulch broadly around tree
- Leave area around trunk clear



### DON'T

- “Volcano” mulch
- Spread deep layers of mulch around tree
- Place mulch against tree trunk
- Place plastic under mulch

## Benefits of Mulching

- Improves soil structure and water infiltration (organic mulches)
- Moderates soil temperature
- Reduces soil compaction
- Limits weeds
- Protects tree from landscaping equipment
- Creates well-kept appearance

Know what's below. 811 before you dig.

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