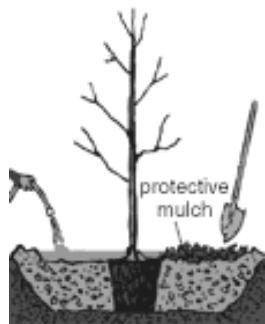


Phelan Garden's Tree and Shrub Planting Instructions

Please read all instructions carefully before starting and call to clear up any confusion or questions.

INITIAL WATERING

Water container plants thoroughly 30 minutes before removing from container.



EXCAVATE

Place organic material and soil additives on area to be planted. Dig area 1" less than root depth **and at least twice as wide** with irregular or jagged sides. See picture at left.

Plant Placement

Plastic Containers: Remove plant from pot and cut or tease outside roots apart over entire root ball including bottom. Cut and leave in place any root that it is larger than your pinky finger to prevent girdling.

Fiber Pots

Fiber pots indicate the plant was field harvested and may have an underdeveloped root system. We recommend fiber pot be carefully removed before backfill occurs. Colorado soils may be slow in decomposing this pot.

Adjusting Height: Set root ball in hole being sure top of root ball matches surrounding grade. (In clay soils, raise top of root ball 1" to 2" above grade.) Adjust for extra depth of new sod as required i.e. set root ball higher, backfill with mixed soil, water well, add soil to areas that sink.

BACKFILL

Mix backfill of organic material and soil additives thoroughly to eliminate layering of different types of soil. **While we do recommend adding a soil amendment (compost/aged manure blends) when you plant, backfill should be no richer than 1/3 soil amendment to 2/3 of your existing soil.** Mycorrhiza or phosphate may be used at the time of planting to aid in plant establishment. Firm soil around bottom to provide stability and carefully make any adjustments to tilt now. Firm soil by hand around root ball—water in—add more backfill if necessary. **Do not stamp backfill with foot.**

WATERING

Saturate root ball and surrounding area thoroughly with water (10 – 15 gallons). Because soils have different water retention characteristics, you may have to water well again in as few as three days or in as many as seven days in clay soil. Plants want to be watered well then allowed to go slightly dry then watered well, etc. **The main cause of plant loss is over or under watering so try to avoid extremes.** (This loss is a cultural factor the homeowner controls and is not covered by our warranty.) **Winter watering is critical in Colorado.** In Winter, water every three to four weeks on warmer days—10 gallons per 1" diameter of trunk. Water between trunk and canopy line—not close to trunk.

STAKING

Most small trees (1/2"-1 3/4" caliper) don't require staking. Typically, large trees are staked to reduce chance of tilting which may be difficult to correct. Position stakes at two or three evenly spaced points around tree. Use grommetted straps to wrap trunk as wire or string used by itself will cut into tree and cause damage. When first planting, snug wires or lines to prevent movement without damaging trunk or bark. After a few weeks, wires or lines should be loosened to allow upper tree trunk to sway up to 2 – 5 inches. This will allow normal root development that eventually will stabilize the tree naturally. **Stakes, wires, and straps all should be removed after one year or one growing season.**

Our Guarantee

All perennial and woody plants are warranted for six months from the date of purchase (void of neglect, misuse of pesticides / fertilizers, or adverse weather). Any plant loss will be replaced at half price when defective plant is presented with accompanying receipt. Trees and shrubs **planted by Phelan Gardens** are warranted for an entire year (void of neglect, misuse of pesticides / fertilizers, or adverse weather). Any plant loss will be replaced at the same price when defective plant is presented with accompanying receipt. Customer and Phelan Gardens will share one-half of the new installation charge. If any of your plants purchased at our nurseries are experiencing declining health, **please contact us immediately** so we have the opportunity to assist and rectify any potential problems prior to losing the plant completely. Failure to notify us will void the warranty.



Please call Phelan Gardens at 574-8058 if you have any questions or see any declining health in your tree or shrub.