

TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING

Ensure a successful tree or shrub with smart planting techniques. Follow these steps to help your tree thrive for generations:

Tree Placement Recommendations

- 5' away from the driveway
- 7' or more away from the sidewalk
- Plant a deciduous tree on the south and west sides of the home to provide shade during summer.
- Plant a conifer on the north side of the home as a wind and snow break.

Step 1: Dig the hole

The hole should be wide and saucer-shaped and only as deep as the root ball of the tree. Remove any extra soil off the top of the root ball to estimate the right depth. Check for encircling roots at the base of the root ball and loosen any before planting.

Step 2: Plant the tree or shrub

Place the root ball in the hole, firm the soil around the base and replace with the original soil. You do not need to add anything to the backfill. Water to settle the soil and fine tune the grade. Avoid stepping on the soil to firm it down.

Step 3: Mulch

Place mulch from the edge of the rootball outwards, ideally to the dripline. Don't put mulch up against the trunk. Mulch will improve the soil and prevent grass growing up to the trunk. Stake the tree if it's in a windy area.

Step 4: Check water regularly

Water 1-2 gallons per inch of trunk diameter several times per week to keep the soil consistently moist. Water 1-2 times per month from November to April. Wait two years to fertilize.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit the Conservation and Environmental Center at 2855 Mesa Road, M-F from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for expert tips and more resources.



Tips and resources



Call or click 811 before you dig



Detailed planting guide

