

# Planting Guide For Hardy Trees And Shrubs



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- Do not expose roots to sun or wind.  
 Remove Container - Plant immediately

- Remove all cords, tags, wires, etc.  
 They can girdle the plant, killing it!

- Mulch - Not under 2"  
 Not over 4"

No mulch around the Trunk.

- If the plant has been grafted, remove all of the suckers that are growing below the graft.

- Never add soil on top of the existing soil in the container or root ball. It will basically smother the plant.

- Plant 1 to 2 inches high. Add soil to sides.

- No well needs to be created except on hillsides.

SOIL LINE

- Dig a wide, bowl shaped hole and spend some time to really break up any compacted soil. Roots have an easier time penetrating loose soil.

Never leave the sides of the hole slick. Break them up with the shovel.

- Break up the soil that came out of the hole and add it back with very little to no amenders.

Water well at time of planting. Use a water hose to keep moist as needed.  
**IRRIGATION IS OFTEN INADEQUATE!**

## General Plant Care Instructions

### FEED

Fertilize in the early spring as plants awaken and are hungry. Maximize growth for a few years by using a 3 month slow release fertilizer such as Osmocote. Or you may use an organic fertilizer montly during the growing season such as Plant Tone or Holly Tone.

Be sure to follow the instructions on the label of your fertilizer and make sure that you are providing adequate water especially during the hot and dry summer months.

### WATER

New plants must be watered with an eye to keep them moist. The easiest way to tell if a newly planted shrub or tree needs water is to stick your finger in the soil that was inside of the bucket where the plant's current roots are located and feel if it is dry.

Never drown plants by over watering them.

If the plant is allowed to stay dry for prolonged periods (longer than a day) the plant will suffer and eventually die.

New plants need to be watered deeply in a slow, steady manner and then allowed to dry between waterings. Do not trust light showers and irrigation for they might be inadequate.

# Planting Guide For Azaleas, Camellias, Hydrangeas, Rhodos.

Rhododendron

Azalea, Camellia, Hydrangea

- Mulch 2 to 4 inches

- Water well at planting

SOIL LINE

- Plant 2/3 above soil line

- Plant nearly on top of the soil line

- Add WSM (Woodland Soil Mix) on top of existing tilled soil and till the entire bed again.

- Till the existing soil first.

Break up the subsoil if it is compacted. Proper drainage is essential for these plants.

### MULCH

Mulching is essential to keep an even soil temperature and moisture level.

It also aids in preventing naturally occuring soil compaction from heavy rainfall.

Mulching also helps in building up an organic base within the soil which all plants need to maintain proper growth and health.

Never add more than 4 inches of mulch because it will smother the plant's roots and never mulch directly around the base of the plant around the truck (leave an air gap).

Mulching right up to the trunk of the plant may rot and will provide a lovely environment for insects and other critters who might find your newly installed plant to be a lovely snack.