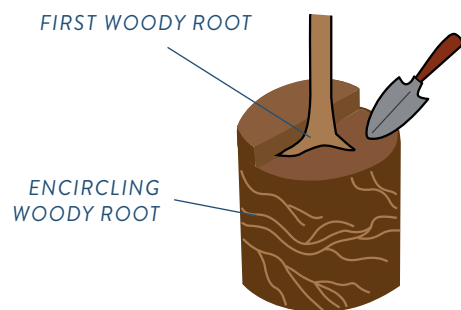
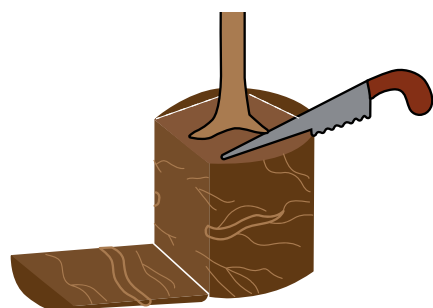


HOW TO PLANT A CONTAINERIZED TREE

- 1 Keep root ball moist at all times. Dry roots die.
- 2 Remove tree from container by holding trunk with one hand and pushing away or down on container with other hand.
- 3 Remove excess soil to top of first woody root.

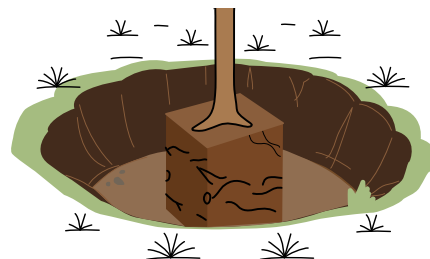


- 4 If encircling woody roots are found, remove by sawing off sides of root ball.

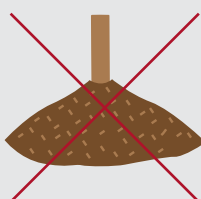
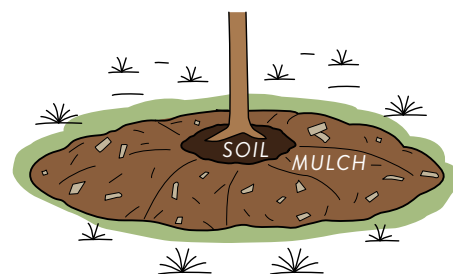


- 5 Dig a hole two times the width of root ball and as deep as distance from bottom of root ball to top of first woody root.

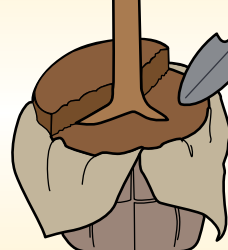
- 6 Carefully place tree in hole, making sure it stands straight and top of first woody root is at ground level.



- 7 Backfill hole to top of first woody root.
- 8 Heel in soil with foot over entire backfill area to remove air pockets in the soil.
- 9 Water root ball and entire backfill area.
- 10 Layer 3 inches of mulch over backfilled area, keeping mulch away from trunk.

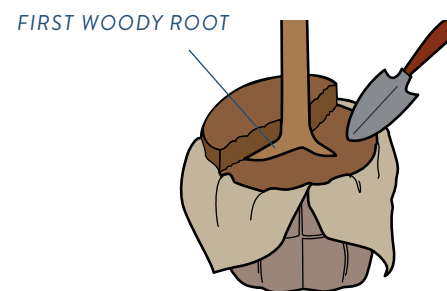


DON'T CREATE A MULCH VOLCANO. IT CAN ROT YOUR TREE.

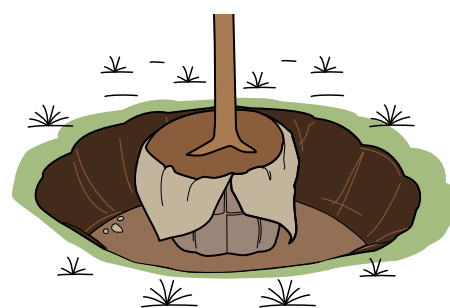


HOW TO PLANT A BALLED AND BURLAPPED TREE

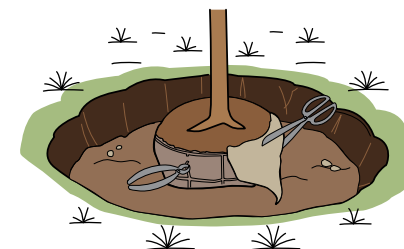
- 1 Keep root ball moist at all times. Dry roots die.
- 2 Loosen top of burlap and remove excess soil to top of first woody root.



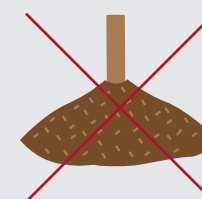
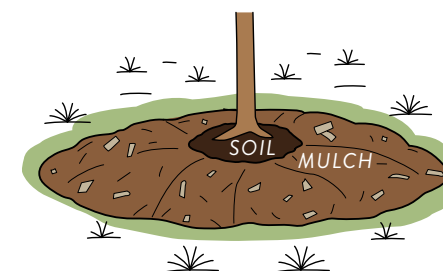
- 3 Dig a hole two times the width of root ball and as deep as distance from bottom of root ball to top of first woody root.
- 4 Carefully place tree in hole, making sure it stands straight and top of first woody root is at ground level.



- 5 Backfill hole halfway up root ball and then cut and remove visible portions of wire basket and burlap without disturbing the root ball.



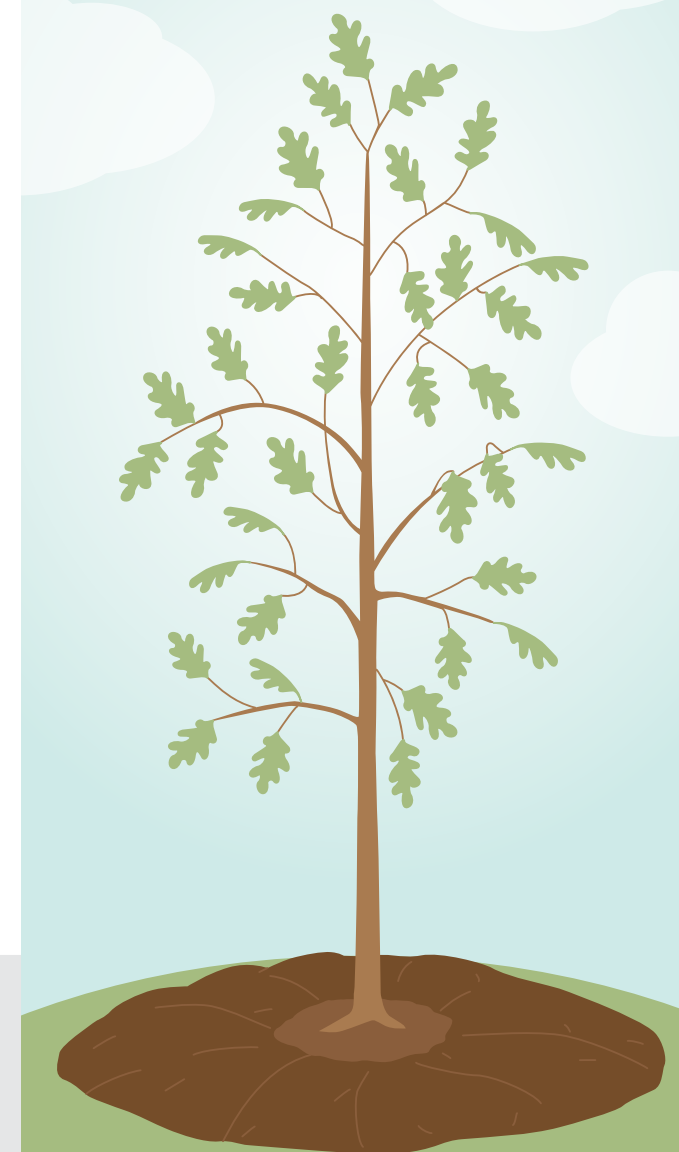
- 6 Finish backfilling hole to top of first woody root, leaving no exposed burlap.
- 7 Heel in soil with foot over entire backfill area to remove air pockets from the soil.
- 8 Water root ball and entire backfill area.
- 9 Layer 3 inches of mulch over backfilled area, keeping mulch away from trunk.



DON'T CREATE A MULCH VOLCANO. IT CAN ROT YOUR TREE.

HOW TO PLANT TREES

A POCKET GUIDE



FORESTRY

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157
www.mndnr.gov

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information is also available in languages other than English.

To file a complaint alleging discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provided in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:
(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250- 9410;
(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

This publication made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service.

©2020, State of Minnesota,
Department of Natural Resources

Printed on recycled paper containing a minimum of 10 percent post-consumer waste and vegetable-based ink.



FSC Logo



BEFORE PLANTING

Select the correct tree for your site.
Find help at mndnr.gov/treecare.

Before digging, contact Gopher State One Call at 800-252-1155 or gopherstateonecall.org to check for underground lines.

AFTER PLANTING

Mulching

Applying mulch, such as wood chips, around a tree has many benefits, including:

- Improving growing conditions
- Retaining moisture
- Controlling weeds and grasses
- Adding nutrients
- Insulating soil
- Protecting trunk and roots

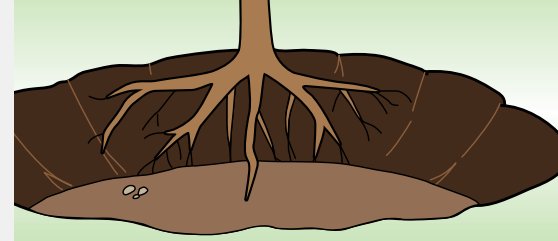
Mulch that is applied too deeply and against the tree is harmful. This "mulch volcano" can rot the tree's trunk, lead to insect and disease problems, and deprive roots of oxygen. Use the "3-3-3 Rule" for applying mulch: 3 feet in diameter, 3 inches deep, and 3 inches away from the trunk.

Watering

Watering a tree is critical to its survival during the first three years. During any week in which less than 1 inch of rain falls, provide 15–25 gallons of water, until the ground freezes. After the first few years, continue to water trees during dry times. Tree water bags may make watering easier.

Protecting

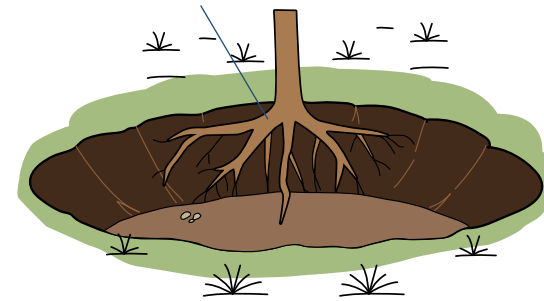
A plastic or metal mesh tree guard can be installed around the tree's trunk to protect it from animal, mower, and trimmer injury. The tree guard must be removed or replaced as the tree grows.



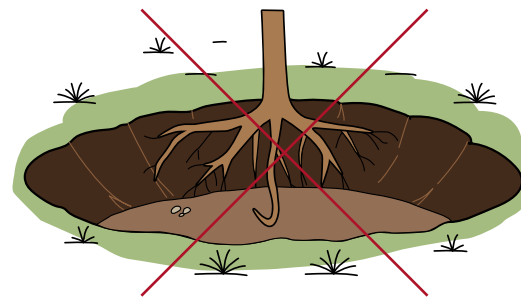
HOW TO PLANT A BAREROOT TREE

- 1 Keep roots moist at all times. Dry roots die.
- 2 Dig a hole twice as wide as and slightly deeper than root length.
- 3 Place roots in hole so top of first woody root is within 1 inch of soil surface.

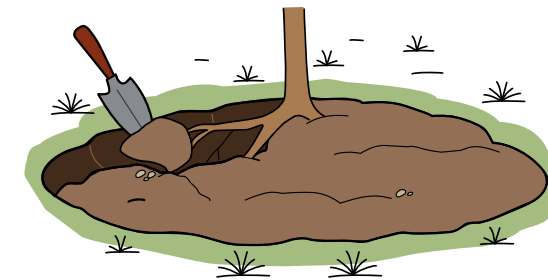
FIRST WOODY ROOT



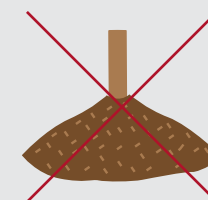
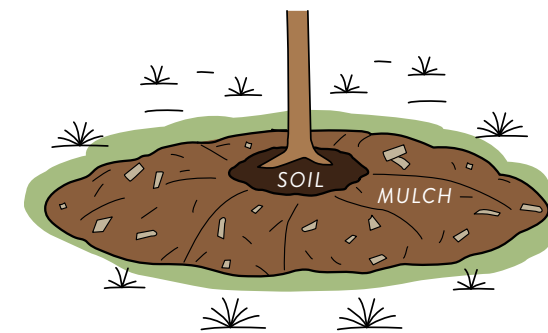
- 4 Distribute roots evenly, making sure roots are straight and not doubled over or "J" rooted.



- 5 Keeping tree straight, backfill hole up to top of first woody root.



- 6 Heel in soil with foot over entire backfill area to remove air pockets from the soil.
- 7 Water entire backfill area.
- 8 Layer 3 inches of mulch over backfilled area, keeping mulch away from trunk.



DON'T CREATE
A MULCH VOLCANO.
IT CAN ROT YOUR TREE.

M E A S U R E T W I C E . D I G O N C E .

9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1