

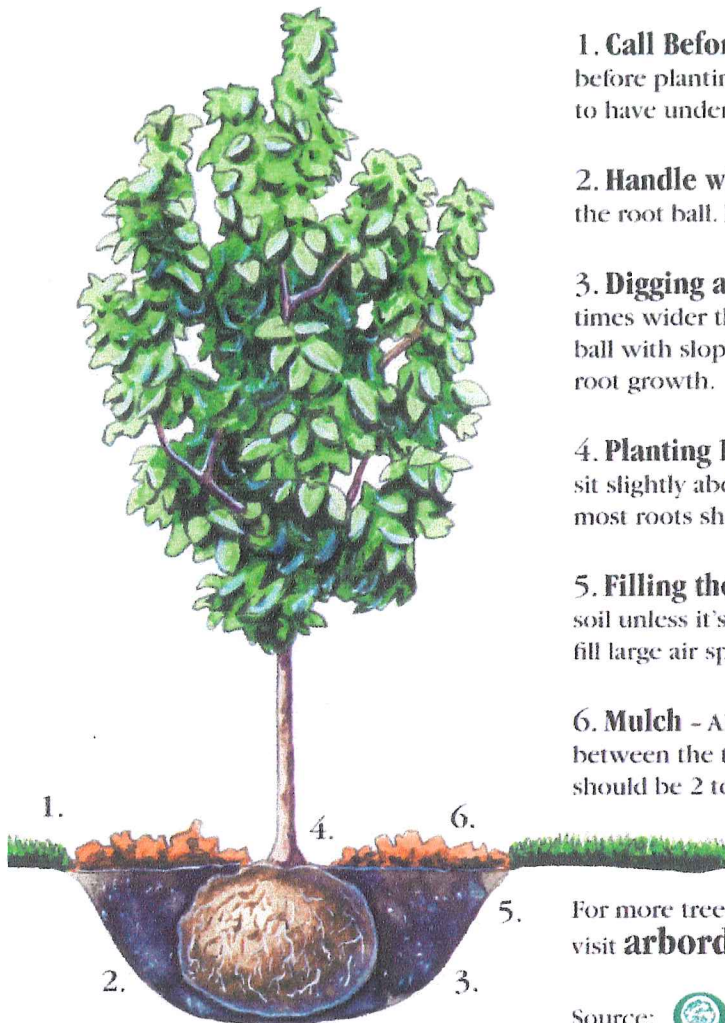
How To Plant A Tree

There Are Many Reasons To Plant A Tree ... So Do It Right!

Properly planted trees provide many benefits. Trees conserve energy, filter air, clean water, attract songbirds and wildlife, and add beauty and increase the value of your homes.

When you plant and care for trees, you contribute to the quality of life in your community.

Six things you should know when planting a larger tree with containerized or balled and burlapped roots:



1. Call Before You Dig - Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. Handle with Care - Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. Digging a Proper Hole - Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. Planting Depth - The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the top-most roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. Filling the Hole - Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. Mulch - Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit arborday.org.

Source:  **Arbor Day Foundation**
90075201

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This tree care information courtesy of the Town of Leesburg Tree Commission.



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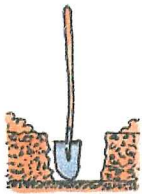
How To Plant A Tree Seedling

Bare-root tree seedlings get off to a more vigorous start compared to larger trees with either containerized or balled and burlapped roots which typically need more time to adjust to transplanting.

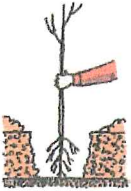
Six steps you should know when planting a small tree seedling:



1. **Before You Dig** – Unpack your tree seedling, remove all packing materials, carefully untangle the roots and soak the roots in water 3 to 6 hours. Do not allow the roots to dry out.



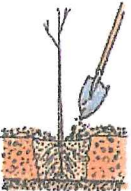
2. **Digging a Proper Hole** – Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can grow outward without crowding. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter.



3. **Planting Depth** – Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, with plenty of room for the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments such as peat or bark. Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your new trees.



4. **Watering** – Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly but not tightly packed. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water.



5. **Mulch** – After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch two inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.



6. **After Care** – The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

Source:  [Arbor Day Foundation](https://www.arborday.org/)

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