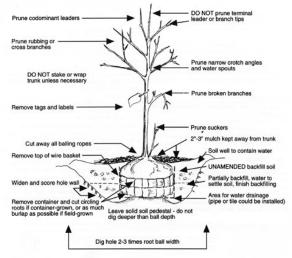


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## Planting a Containerized or Balled and Burlapped Tree or Shrub

\*It is extremely important to install your new plant today. Our plant material is watered daily and will easily dry out if not planted the same day that you pick it up or get it delivered.

There are several ways to plant containerized or ball and burlapped trees. Breezy Hill Nursery recommends the following steps to ensure successful planting:



Shallow, broad planting hole: The hole should be dug to the depth of the root ball, and at least 6 inches wider than the width in diameter of the ball. Place the tree into the hole by holding the ball, not the trunk. In our area with the clay soils you can mound the center slightly in the hole to make a platform to detour the water from settling around the root ball. *Be sure the root flare of the tree is above the existing soil grade.* 

**Position the tree:** Balance the tree, making sure that it is straight and at the correct height (tree should be planted at the same depth that it was growing in the nursery, with the root flare above soil grade).

**Remove materials:** It is important that any synthetic burlap or twine is removed when planting. Breezy Hill Nursery typically uses biodegradable burlap and twine, which can remain on the tree. The wire basket should remain intact. This helps stabilize the tree after planting and prevents root damage to the tree during planting. Trees planted without the wire basket intact will not be guaranteed by Breezy Hill Nursery.

**Fill hole:** Fill the hole with about one-third of the soil that you dug to make the hole and gently pack around the root ball. At this time you can sprinkle *Osmocote* fertilizer around the root ball, and then continue to fill the rest of the hole, while adding water to remove air pockets. We also recommend the use of *Root Stimulator* applied weekly with waterings.

Prune: At this time, prune only dead or injured branches. Do not use tree wound paint.

Tree Wrap: Remove any tree wrap, tags, and twine from the tree.

Staking: Properly placed and planted trees rarely need to be staked, but staking is recommended if planting on a hill or in windy locations. If staking is necessary, make absolutely certain that the stakes are removed at the end of the first year.

**Mulch:** Place a 3 inch to 4 inch layer of mulch in a circle around the tree, ideally the ring should extend to the drip line of the tree or a minimum of 3' to 4' outwards from trunk. Taper the mulch to the base of the trunk (root flare) so that heat and moisture are not trapped against the bark under the mulch.

Watering: Place a hose at the base of the plant and turn the water on at a trickle. Each tree should be watered in this manner for approximately 1-2 hours. (It is essential to water slowly enough to allow the water to penetrate the soil without running off). Water thoroughly to ensure that there isn't any air pockets by the root area and to moisten the entire soil area to help hydrate the newly planted tree. A rooting hormone maybe added after the first watering to help encourage root growth to help anchor the tree faster and to help the uptake of nutrients to a newly planted tree, you may obtain this item at the Garden Center.

• For additional information See UW-Extension Publication: A3067