



## Watering Your New Tree/Shrub

**Large Trees (10 gal - B&B):** Place a hose at the base of the tree and let it run at a slow trickle (about ½ the size of a pencil) for about an hour every other day for the first week, Continue to water twice per week for the first couple of years to make sure a solid root system is established. Evergreens need to be watered until the end of October. Deciduous only until mid September.

**Any shrub or tree in a 7 gal or smaller:** Handwater with a hose every other day for the first 14 days. Give it a good soaking around the entire base of the plant - until the water starts to pool around the base. Continue to water twice per week for the first couple of years to make sure a solid root system is established. Evergreens need to be watered until the end of October. Deciduous only until mid September.

*A couple things to keep in mind:*

- Watering woody plants with overhead (rotary or spray) sprinkler systems does not give new plants enough water to keep it happy and healthy. Water that sits on the leaves will likely encourage leaf discoloration, stress and potential disease problems.
- If we have sufficient rains and low temperatures you can cut back on watering during that time period. Resume watering schedule when it warms up or there is a dry spell.
- If we experience an extended period of no rain (2-3 weeks) in the second and third year, please refer back to the watering schedule of soaking or hand watering twice per week.
- After your plant is well established (3 years +), you can begin to only water during extreme heat or dry spells.
- These methods are NOT failsafe! There are many variables that can affect the health of a plant.
- Keep your garden looking great by fertilizing all plantings every spring with Healthy Garden to replace lost nutrients during the past growing season.

*Not sure your tree is getting enough water?*

- Get your hands in the dirt! Pull back some of the mulch and stick your finger in it to see how damp the soil is. If it feels damp, there is enough water. If it feels dry until the middle knuckle, give it a good soak and increase your watering.
- Droopy leaves can be an indication of too much OR too little watering.

Still not sure? Give us a call or send us an email with pictures!

# Planting Your New Tree/Shrub



## Determine how big to dig your hole

### **Width:**

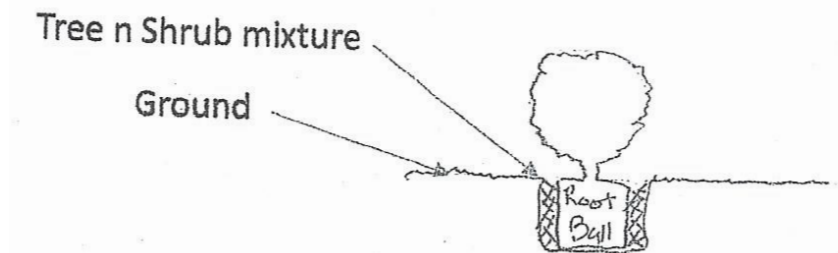
Small Plantings (1 gal - 7 gal): Dig your hole 6" wider than the measurement across the top of the pot. For example, if the top of your pot measures 8" - dig your hole 14" wide.

Larger Plantings (10 gal - 20 gal): Dig your hole 8"-10" wider than the top of the pot.

Anything larger: Dig your hole 12"-14"" wider than the top of the pot or root ball mass

### **Depth:**

Dig your hole only as deep as the soil level (root ball), not to the top of the pot. Dig straight down on the sides and DON'T plant too deep



## Now your hole is ready:

- Gently lower your root ball into the hole, center it as best you can. Keep it level.
- Mix Tree & Shrub half and half with the existing soil as you place the soil back in the hole around the root ball.
- Don't stomp or pack the soil, this causes water to be repelled from soaking in around the root ball. Go around the root ball with the shovel lightly working in the new soil. Let the watering do the packing.
- Water your new plantings with a hose until the new soil mixture is the consistency of oatmeal - referred to as 'mudding in'. You can help get the water thoroughly incorporated into the planting soil with the shovel. This is especially helpful with larger plants. Wait 10-30 minutes to let it settle.
- Add additional soil at the top, to fill in the settled space (if needed)
- Add your mulch. This will help to hold moisture around the plant.

*Move on to the watering phase...see back of sheet.*