

Tips for tree planting

Balled and burlapped trees:

Dig a hole twice as wide as, and slightly shallower than, the rootball. Remove the string or wire holding the burlap to the root ball, and gently place the ball in the hole.

Fill with soil, lightly tamping the soil to collapse air pockets.

Finish by forming a temporary water basin around the tree; water and mulch an area about 3 feet in diameter.

Bare root method:

Dig the planting hole wide and shallow. The hole should be 2-3 times wider in all directions than the root spread. Do not loosen the soil that will be underneath the root system; instead concentrate on creating loose soil horizontally for the spreading roots.

Turf surrounding the tree should be completely removed so it doesn't compete with the newly planted tree for water.

Plant the tree so that the beginning of the root flare is visible at soil level. It is critical not to plant the tree too deep.

Backfill with the native soil that you have removed. When you've replaced half of the backfill, water the hole to help collapse air pockets. Finish backfilling, and gently firm soil. Make sure the soil is not mounded against the trunk.

Natural Resource Benefits of Tree Planting



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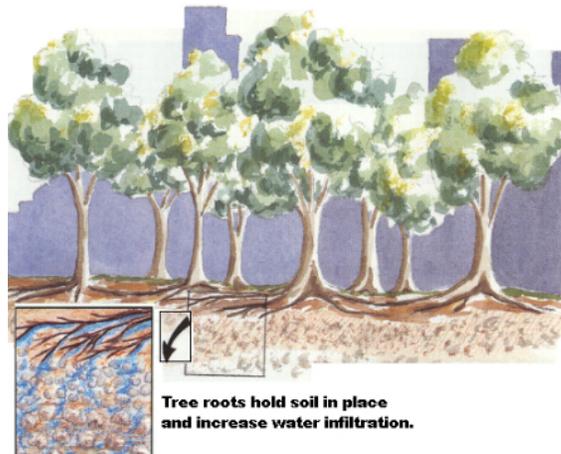
Air Quality

- Trees absorb carbon dioxide and give us oxygen in return.
- Trees help remove lung-damaging dust, ash, and smoke from the air.
- Trees provide shade which reduces temperatures in urban areas.
- Trees lessen the impact of urban "heat island" effect and reduce changes in weather patterns.



Water Quality

- Tree leaves and roots act as natural water filters that trap pollutants.
- Trees help slow the movement of storm water which reduces soil erosion and flooding.
- Trees help prevent sediment, nutrients and chemicals from getting into streams.
- Trees help water enter the ground and recharge water tables.
- Trees provide shade which reduces temperatures in streams benefiting many aquatic organisms.



Economic Benefits

- Trees boost the market value of your home.
- Trees properly placed around buildings reduce air conditioning and heating costs.
- Trees reduce the need for community facilities that control storm water.
- Trees can help stimulate economic development, attracting new businesses and tourism.

