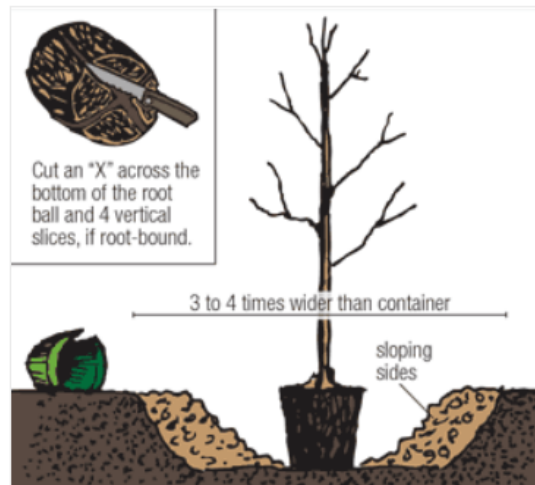


Containerized Tree Planting and Care Instructions

NOTE: RAINFALL IS NOT ENOUGH TO ESTABLISH NEW PLANTINGS. YOU MUST WATER YOUR NEW TREE AT LEAST WEEKLY!

1. Dig a hole 2 to 4 times wider than the root ball and at a depth shallower than the height of the root ball. The hole should have sloping sides like a saucer.
2. Remove the tree from the container keeping the soil around the roots intact. Tap the outside of the container or squeeze the sides of the pot to release the plant. Carefully slide the tree from the container. Do not yank or pull the plant out by the foliage.
3. Loosen the roots which may be growing in a circle. Loosen by hand or use a garden knife or pruners to pull the roots apart. **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP!**
4. Place the tree in the hole, resting on undisturbed soil. The top of the root ball should be 1-2 inches above the existing soil level. Lay a shovel handle across the hole to measure the height.
5. Use a soil amendment, such as Nature's Helper, to improve the fertility, drainage, and moisture retention of the soil removed from the hole. Do not use fertilizer or potting soil. After mixing the soil, fill all open areas around the root ball, compacting the soil as you go. Remove all air pockets as you fill the hole. Do not leave any roots on the sides of the rootball exposed. Do not put any soil on the top of the rootball.
6. Create a water-holding basin around the planting area and water the tree well.
7. Cover the entire planting area with a 2-3" layer of mulch. Do not allow mulch to touch the trunk of the tree.
8. **WATER, WATER, WATER!** The soil and mulch around your tree should be kept moist but not soggy. Water the tree every week during the first year, unless the week has substantial rainfall. Water slowly at the dripline.



Use this link to view instructions on the **Arbor Day Foundation** website:

Enjoy your new tree!

Instructions prepared by the **Oakley Tree Keepers**, a committee of the Oakley Neighborhood Association.

