

## Information & Additional Care Options

- **Staking:** Stake trees up to 25 gallons.
- **Pruning:** Generally, new trees do not need pruning. Damaged branches may be removed, but it's best to leave pruning to an expert. Contact us at Hoerr Nursery for advice, or call a local ISA certified arborist.
- **Fertilizing:** You may fertilize your tree once a year in early fall with Holly-tone, or another fertilizer labeled for trees.
- **Espoma Holly-tone:** An organic fertilizer.
- **Fertilome Root Stimulator:** This product helps reduce transplant shock and stimulates root growth.
- **Espoma Bio-tone:** Microbe enhanced all natural organic fertilizer. This micorrhizal product helps establish a larger root mass.



A step-by-step video guide is available! Scan the QR Code with your smartphone camera or visit [hoerrnursery.com/trees](http://hoerrnursery.com/trees)



TREE GUIDE

HOERR NURSERY • 8020 N SHADE TREE DRIVE  
PEORIA, IL 61615  
309 691-4561  
HOERRNURSERY.COM  
EXPERT@HOERRNURSERY.COM



## Planting Your New Tree

### 6 Steps To Success

Congratulations on your new tree purchase! You're just six steps away from enjoying your tree for many years to come.

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✉ For expert help or advice, email [expert@hoerrnursery.com](mailto:expert@hoerrnursery.com)

☎ Or call us at 309 691-4561

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#### STEP 1: DIG YOUR HOLE

Dig the hole for the tree. The hole needs to be clear of old roots and rocks. Make the hole almost as deep as your tree's rootball and twice (2x) as wide.



#### STEP 2: PREPARE YOUR TREE

- **Plastic or synthetic container:** Please remove this now and discard. **IMPORTANT!** Break up some soil from the rootball to expose structural roots. A root-bound tree will not thrive. Tip the tree at an angle and roll the rootball into the hole. Straighten the tree.
- **Balled & Burlapped:** Leave roots wrapped. Remove string, top 1/3 of wire and burlap. (See diagram on next page).



#### STEP 3: PLANT YOUR TREE

Plant your tree in the hole, leaving the trunk flare at or slightly above soil level to ensure your tree does not succumb to root rot.

## PLANTING CONTINUED



### STEP 4: FILL YOUR HOLE

Backfill the hole, adding a stiff spray of water to the hole after backfilling half way to eliminate air pockets.

#### IF USING FERTILOME ROOT STIMULATOR OR ESPOMA BIO-TONE:

Please follow all product instructions. Pour or place mixture around the rootball, alternating with layers of soil, tamping as you backfill.



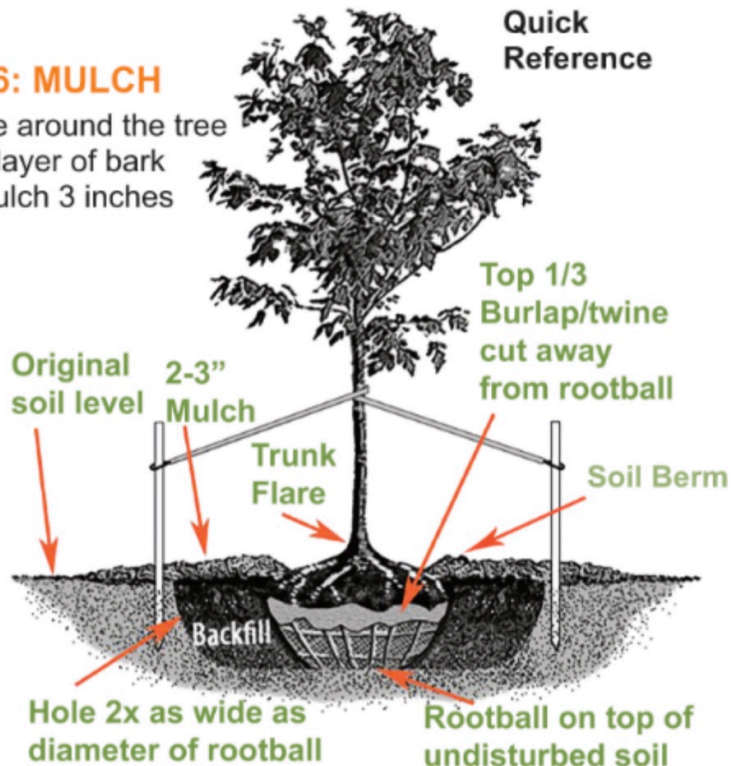
### STEP 5: WATER YOUR TREE

Form a sturdy raised berm around the rootball's perimeter with excess soil. Watering is a crucial part of your tree's success. Please water immediately. See the watering guide on the next page for further instructions.



### STEP 6: MULCH

Mulch in a circle around the tree with a 2-3 inch layer of bark mulch. Keep mulch 3 inches from the trunk.



## Caring For Your Tree

### YOUR TREE'S FIRST YEAR

#### WATERING GUIDE

**IMPORTANT:** Improper watering is the #1 cause of tree loss!

Watering is the single most important task to ensure your new tree thrives. Water once a week unless you receive an inch of slow rainfall. **Water twice a week if weather is hot and dry.**

HEIGHT	TRUNK DIA.	ROOTBALL	WATER
3-6ft	1-2 in	5-15 gal	5-15 gal
6-10 ft	2-3 in	15-25 gal	15-25 gal
10-15 ft	3-4 in	45 gal	25+ gal
15+ft	4-5 in	70 gal	70+ gal

Water Deciduous Trees May – Sept • Water Evergreen Trees Apr – Dec

#### Instructions For Watering:

Set a hose to a slow trickle and let it run for 30 minutes to 2 hours based on the size of the tree. You can time your trickle by filling a 5 gallon bucket and calculating accordingly.

#### PROTECTING

##### SUNSCALD

Protect your tree from winter sunscald and freeze damage. Wrap with tree wrap from November – April from the base up to the bottom of the first branch. Overlap as you go and secure with cotton string or twine. Continue annually until trunk is 4 inches in diameter and a rougher, textured bark develops.

##### DEER

Protect your tree from deer by using a tree guard. Deer can severely damage young trees by rubbing their antlers on the bark, and can even snap a young tree in half. Tree guards can be left on year-round, or added in fall and removed in spring.