

Tree Care Guidelines

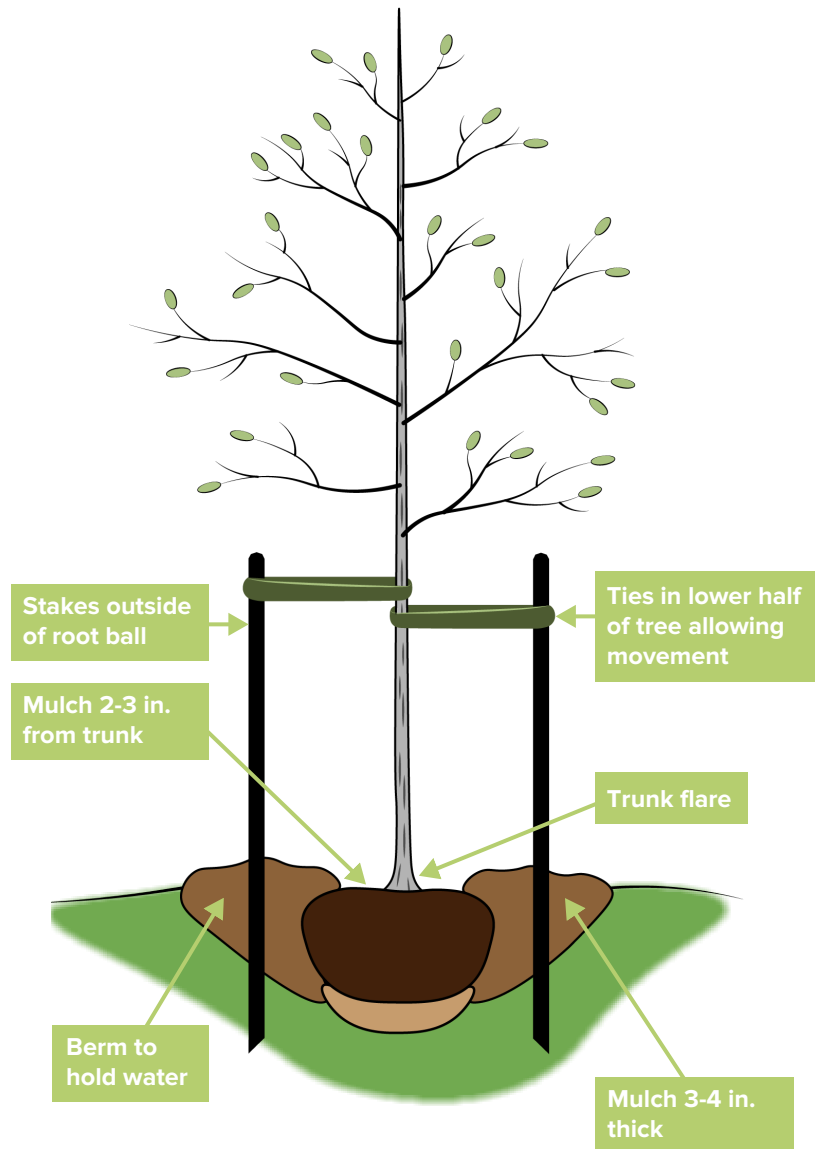


Mulch

- Mulch is ground up tree limbs and branches that are placed on the top of the soil to retain moisture, create an environment for beneficial microorganisms, regulate soil temperature and prevent weed growth.
- Mulch should be 3-4 inches thick covering exposed soil around the base of the tree.
- Mulch should be kept 2-3 inches away from the trunk of the tree.
- Mulch should never be placed on the trunk of the tree. A trunk buried with mulch or soil will slowly rot and can eventually kill the tree.
- A dense pile of fallen leaves act as a great and free source of mulch.

Stakes & Ties

- Stakes and ties are used to support and protect newly planted trees. They are not meant to hold the tree rigidly in place.
- Stakes should be located vertically outside of the root ball.
- Ties should be placed in the location that best supports the tree and allows movement of about 2-3 inches in either direction.
- The stakes and ties should be removed once the tree roots are established and the root ball doesn't shift when the trunk is moved, usually after 1-2 years.
- Always remove the nursery stake taped to the trunk after properly staking a tree.



For more information, visit treepeople.org

Water

- Newly planted trees require 15 gallons of water once a week for the first 3 years after planting.
- After that, trees require 15 gallons of water at least once a month, especially during the summer.
- Signs of drought stress: brown, brittle, and prematurely dropping leaves.
- Signs of over watering: yellow and curling leaves, dead leaf tips, rot odor in soil.



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