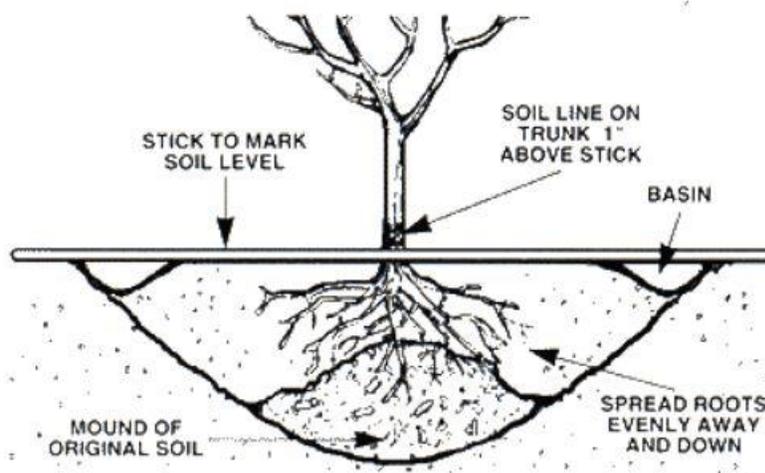


## Planting Instructions

- Both bare root and container trees should be planted as soon as possible. If you are unable to plant your tree right away, keep it in a cool shady place, give it water, and plant as soon as possible – it will be fine for a day or two, but **do NOT let the roots dry out**.
- Locate your tree **away from utilities**, septic systems and buildings.
- Remove the grass from an area about 3 feet across. **Dig a square or irregular saucer-shaped hole**, sloping inwards, about as deep as the root mass and twice as wide. Make a **loose mound of soil** (a few shovels full) in the centre. **Rough up the exposed soil** to encourage root penetration. The roughed-up edges and corners will encourage the roots to expand beyond the hole.
- **Cut off any broken twigs** or root ends. Do not cut or remove the central leader.
- **Remove the plastic bag or container**. If your container tree is root-bound, cut an X in the base of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides, using a sharp knife.
- Place the tree on the mound of soil in the hole so that the darker-coloured soil-line “collar” on the bark (just above where the roots begin) will be located about 1” above the soil when the tree is replanted (it will settle as the soil compacts). Allow the roots of your bare-root tree to drape freely over the mound, away and down from the base of your tree.



- **Mix the small plastic bag of Mycorrhizae root stimulant provided with 2 gallons of water**, and pour over the roots.

- **Anchor the tree** by placing about six inches of soil around the roots. Adding compost to the soil is no longer recommended, since it encourages the roots to stay in the original planting hole.
- **Soak the soil** thoroughly until the mud is the consistency of stew and flows around the roots, and jiggle the tree up and down to remove air pockets. Check that the trunk is vertical.
- Spread another few inches of soil, wet thoroughly and repeat until the soil is level with the undisturbed area. The **soil line on the trunk or the spot where the topmost root meets the trunk should be 1 or 2 inches above the undisturbed soil** around the tree. Pack the soil lightly with your heel.
- **Build a water ring** about 3 inches high around the edge of the planting hole, or dig a 2-3-inch ring basin around the drip line. Fill with water. The ring can be removed by the next growing season.



- Spread about 2 inches of mulch over the area, but **keep the mulch 3-4 inches away from the tree trunk**. Wet mulch can cause disease if it is in contact with the trunk.
- **During the first season, after the tree leafs out, water it for 5-6 minutes once a week or until the soil is saturated, even if it rains.**

**CONGRATULATIONS – you’ve planted a legacy!**