

Tips to Plant Trees Effectively, and away from your tile beds.



Tips for
successful
tree planting
and care.



Tree Planting Tips

**MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE PLANTING YOUR TREES AT
LEAST 3 METRE (10 FEET) AWAY FROM YOUR SEPTIC
BEDS, ON EITHER SIDE**

Step 1: Dig a hole

- The hole should be two to three times wider than the container.
- Don't dig too deep. Planting depth is very important and can often lead to premature tree death if incorrect.
- When placed in the hole, the tree's root collar (i.e., where the roots join the main stem or trunk) should be flush with or slightly above ground level.

Step 2: Plant the tree

- For trees in containers, gently slide the root ball out of the pot and into the hole.
- Root balls should be loosened to discourage girdling. You can also roughen the sides and bottom of the hole to promote root penetration.
- For burlapped trees, place the root ball in the hole and gently cut away the wire basket and burlap.
- Plant the tree so that its root collar is flush with or slightly higher than ground level and the tree is vertical.

Step 3: Secure the tree

- Fill the hole in and around the root ball with the soil that was removed.
- Do not return any grass or sod to the hole.
- Gently pack the soil around the root ball until the hole is two-thirds full to remove air pockets.
- Fill the remaining space with water to settle the soil and allow the hole to drain.
- Finish filling the hole with soil and apply 5 cm of soil in a circle around the root area to direct water towards the roots.

Tree Maintenance

Take your tree care to the next level. From roots to leaves, here are five ways to nurture trees for long-term growth:



Mulch

Mulch helps to reduce the growth of weeds and grass, retain water in the soil, minimize temperature fluctuations, and provide a slow release of nutrients. Apply 5-10 cm of mulch in a circle around the root area, ensuring it doesn't touch or crowd the trunk.



Water

Watering helps keep the soil moist and healthy. Water trees immediately after planting and then on a weekly basis, depending on rainfall. Keep an eye on the weather and monitor for signs of drought stress on your tree.



Stake

Staking trees is not necessary unless they are exposed to high winds or if the soil is shallow. If you do choose to install stakes, be sure to remove them after one year so the trees can strengthen on their own.



Prune

Pruning improves branch spacing and promotes a strong structure for your tree. Remove dead, damaged or rubbing branches at planting, or when the tree is dormant in late fall or early spring.



Fertilize

Avoid adding fertilizer unless soil tests indicate a need for specific minerals and nutrients.