

How to Plant a Tree

Planting a tree is straightforward but there are a few things to make sure you get right. Follow these steps to give your tree the best chance of success.

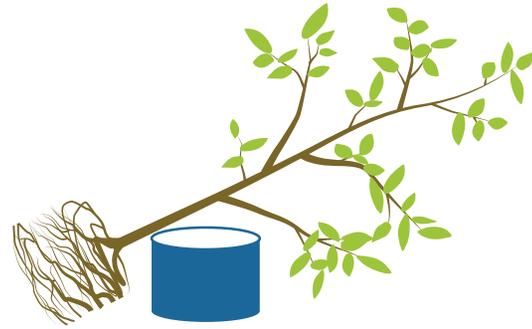


Tools:
Shovel
Scissors
Water
Mulch

Optional Tools:
Tarp for soil
Trowel
Gloves

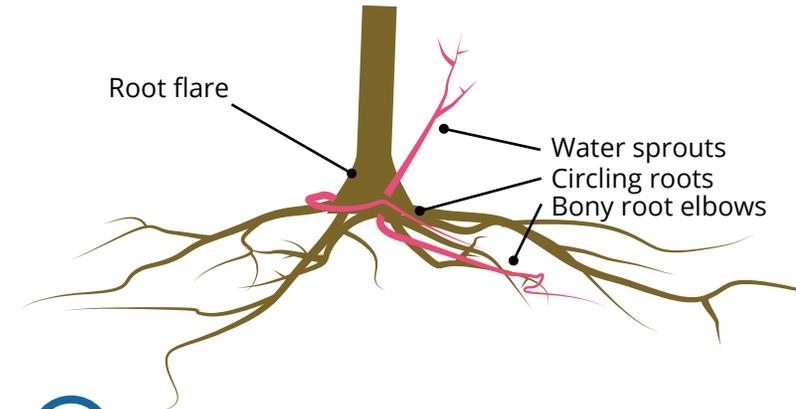
Things to remember:

- Call 811 before you dig
- Plant your tree within a week of getting it
- Do not add soil amendments
- Never cover your root flare



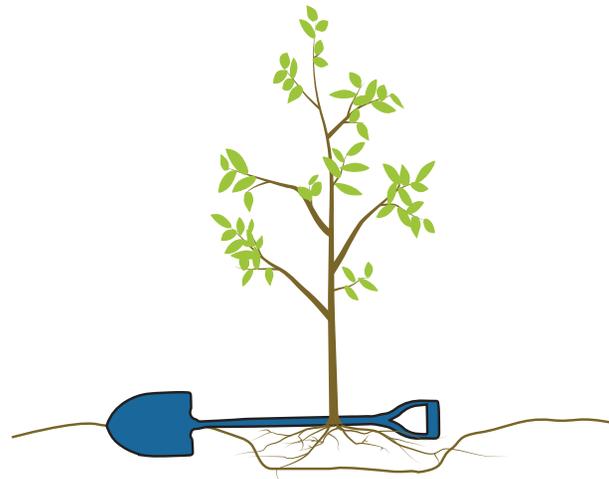
1 Remove the pot

Lay your tree down and press on the sides of the pot until your tree slides out of the pot. Be gentle with the tree trunk.



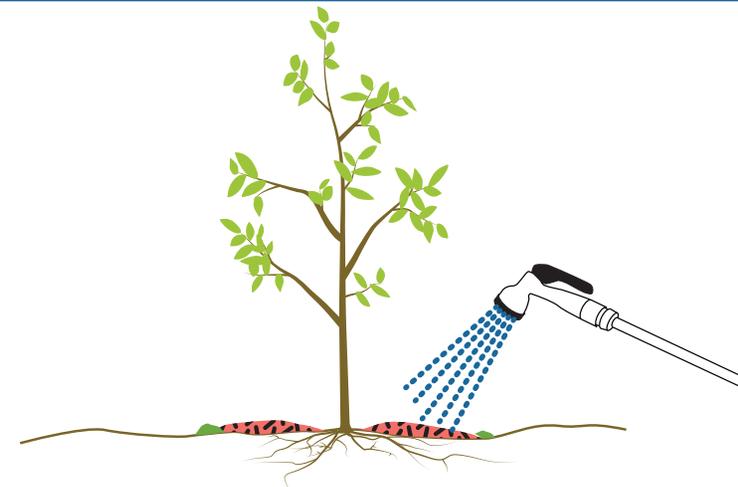
2 Prepare the roots

Untangle the roots so they can grow outward. Trim away any water sprouts, kinked roots, and circling roots to help your tree grow healthy. Locate your root flare.



3 Dig a hole

Dig your hole as deep as your prepared roots and 3x as wide. Test that your trunk flare is above the level of the soil before filling the hole.



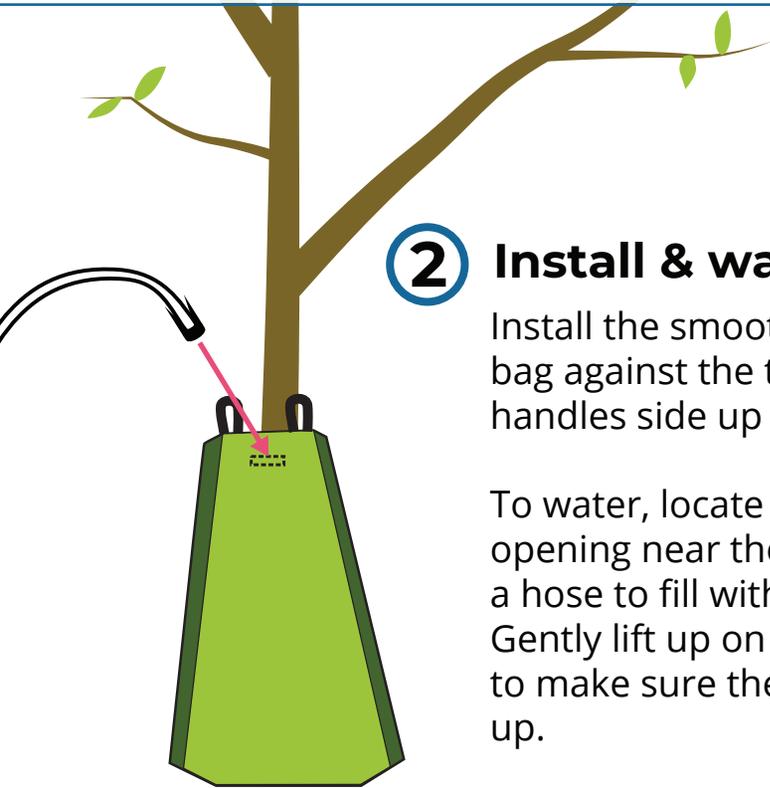
4 Mulch, water & enjoy!

Lay a 3-4 inch layer of mulch leaving 3-6 inches around the trunk bare. Give your tree a long drink of water and wait until spring to install your watering bag.

How to Install a Watering Bag

Tree watering bags help your tree get enough water over the hot, dry months of summer. Tree bags slowly release water, making sure trees are thoroughly and deeply soaked. They increase water efficiency (saving you money!), help your tree's roots get a healthy start and reduce the risk of over or under watering.

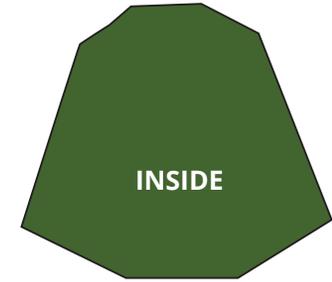
We recommend filling your watering bag twice a week during the dry season for the first 3 years and during especially dry or hot periods during years 4 and 5.



2 Install & water

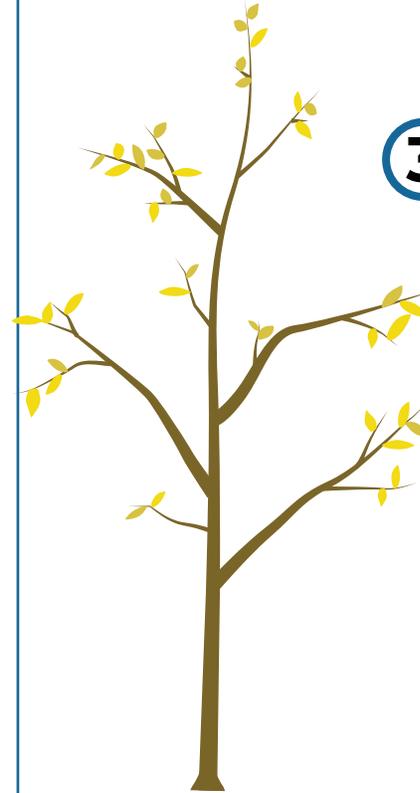
Install the smooth side of the bag against the trunk with the handles side up and zip.

To water, locate a small opening near the top and use a hose to fill with water. Gently lift up on the handles to make sure the bag is filling up.



1 Prepare your bag

Unwrap and unzip your watering bag. The inside will be smooth and the outside will have folds that hold the water.



3 Store for winter

Around October, you can store the bag for winter. Deciduous trees are mostly dormant in the winter and evergreens will get all the water they need from rain.

Reinstall around May or June.



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-6129 (voice) or email trees@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov. If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.



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