



5518 Liberty Grove, Rowlett, TX 75089 972-475-5888 Fax: 972-412-5271

TREE CARE FOR THE FIRST TWO YEARS

Congratulations on the purchase of your new tree! Your trees will need extra care for the first two years while they are establishing healthy root systems. Below is an explanation of our planting procedure and your care instructions. Please call us if you have any questions or problems.

PLANTING PROCEDURE

We plant our trees higher than the natural grade to allow for settling. All of our trees are planted with **Covington's Soil Builder** (mixture of greensand, compost and expanded shale) and **Soil Moist**. These products help the soil to retain moisture. **Root stimulator** is applied at the time of planting and the trees are watered in. Trees are top-dressed with 2" of mulch and staked, if necessary.

WATERING GUIDELINE

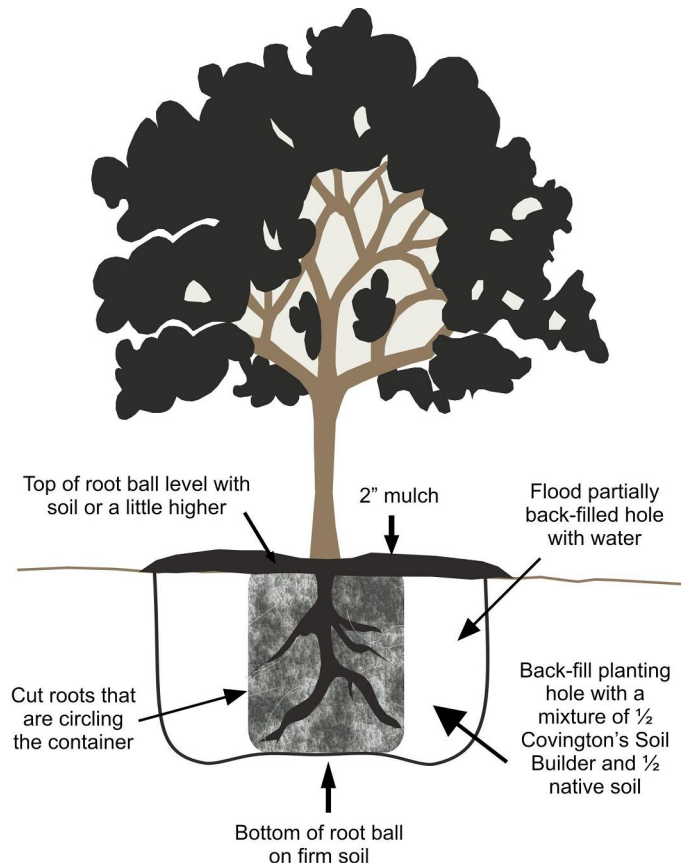
Newly planted trees must be watered thoroughly for the first five (5) days after planting. This settles the dirt and removes air pockets in the soil and from around the tree.

Supplemental watering is very important during the first two years, especially when weather conditions include drying winds, lack of rainfall, and high temperatures. If your tree does not get enough water, the overall health of the tree will be adversely affected.

The biggest problem facing your tree is the lack of water. Your tree will exhibit certain signs when it has been under or over watered. Watch for these signs and let us know right away if you notice any problems with your tree. With early diagnosis, most problems can be resolved before permanent damage is done to your tree.

Symptoms of Under-watering: Leaves are dry and crumble; they could be brown or light green. Leaves voluntarily fall off.

Symptoms of Over-watering: Leaves discolor but do not drop or come off easily; leaves do not crumble and will fold in your hand.



When does a tree need water?

Whenever the root ball is dry. You can determine this by feeling the soil around the root ball to a depth of 3"- 6". If it is dry, then thoroughly water the entire root ball.

How much water is needed?

Your tree will require a thorough soaking at least once per week (see Watering Schedule) depending on environmental conditions. Your tree is thoroughly soaked when the water has absorbed and starts to puddle around the root ball. If there is a slope in the grade of your land, it may be necessary to split the watering into segments to allow water to fully absorb and minimize run-off.

How should I water the tree?

Trees prefer to be watered slowly and deeply. Use a hand-held hose or a soaker hose and water directly onto the root ball. The easiest method is to lay a water hose 1-2 feet from the tree trunk. Move the hose around the root ball as it becomes thoroughly soaked.

If I use automatic sprinklers, how long should it be set?

During hot months, sprinklers with pop-up heads should be set for at least 20 minutes; rotary heads for 1 hour. During cooler months, pop-up heads should be set for 15 minutes; rotary heads for 45 minutes. **Do not rely on your sprinkler system alone to provide adequate water, especially during hot weather.**

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

FERTILIZATION:

Apply **Nature's Guide Tree Therapy** every three months at the rate of 1 pound per inch of tree diameter. Sprinkle this all-organic soil amendment on top of the root ball and water it in.

Mix root stimulator according to manufacturer's directions and apply once a month. For trees with 1"- 3" trunk diameter, apply 1 gallon of mixture per inch. For larger trees, apply at the rate of 3 gallons of mixture per inch of diameter.

STAKING:

We recommend that you remove the staking device one year after installation.

MULCH:

Mulch cools the root ball during the summer and warms it during the winter. It also helps retain moisture. When adding new mulch, no more than 2 inches total should be on top of the root ball.

Caution: *Do not add any more dirt on top of root ball. Once the tree is planted it is too late to install any brick, rock, wood, or other retaining material to make a flowerbed at the base of your tree.*

WATERING SCHEDULE

(Adjust for Rainfall)

CONTAINER GROWN TREES

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY

Thoroughly hand soak root ball 1 time per week

Note: Be sure to water all of your plants before a hard freeze

MARCH - APRIL

Hand soak 1-2 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3 times & soak 1 time a week

MAY - JUNE

Hand soak 2-3 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3-4 times & soak 1-2 times a week
Note: During drought & excessive heat it may be necessary to water every day.

JULY - AUGUST

Hand soak 3-5 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle daily & soak 2 times a week
Note: During drought & excessive heat it may be necessary to water every day.

SEPTEMBER

Hand soak 2-3 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle daily & soak 2 times a week
Note: During drought & excessive heat it may be necessary to water every day.

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

Hand soak 2-3 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3 times & soak 1 time a week

BALL & BURLAPPED TREES

Note: B&B trees require less water than container grown trees.

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY

Thoroughly hand soak root ball every 2 weeks

Note: Be sure to water all of your plants before a hard freeze

MARCH - APRIL

Hand soak 1 time a week **OR**
Sprinkle 2 times & soak 1 time a week

MAY - JUNE

Hand soak 2-3 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3 times & soak 1 time a week

JULY - AUGUST

Hand soak 3-4 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle daily & soak 1 time a week

SEPTEMBER

Hand soak 2-3 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3-4 times & soak 1 time a week

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

Hand soak 1-2 times a week **OR**
Sprinkle 3 times & soak 1 time a week