



## Tree Planting Instructions

Remove and discard grass and weeds from the planting site. The hole should be 1 foot wider than the diameter of the root ball and no deeper. Dig the hole square rather than round as roots cannot follow the sides of a square hole as easily as a round.

Pour several quarts of 3 percent grade Hydrogen peroxide on the sides and bottom of the hole until saturated. You will see the soil bubble and fizz, which softens the soil and allows the new roots to penetrate the sides of the hole.

Carefully remove the tree's root ball from its container, taking care not to break or damage the root ball. Take care to not touch the roots with bare hands as lotion and acids from your skin can cause damage.

Place the tree in the center of the hole on firm ground so the root crown (where the trunk meets the roots) is level with the surrounding ground level.

Return undamaged containers to the nursery so they may be recycled, thanks!

**Backfill the hole with the soil you removed (original soil).** Discard any grass and weeds from the soil. **Do not add soil amendments.** Try to use pulverized soil like that of a gopher mound. Do not pack the soil in; instead use water to settle the soil into the voids of the hole.

Do not place any kind of fertilizer tablets into the backfill. Do not use any kind of Root Stimulator or fertilizer of inorganic origin with newly planted trees. Earth Magic with our Protein Crumbles may be applied on the surface only.

Remove the nursery stake, if your tree came tied to one. If your tree is sturdy enough to hold itself upright, do not restake. Trees trunks will develop faster if they can bend in the wind. **Water thoroughly right after planting to soak the planting area and settle the soil.**

**For optimum Tree Growth** Watering well with a sprinkler is best. Judge the amount of water put down by your sprinkler by measuring 3 to 4 inches of water into coffee cans. The zone that needs to be watered and mulched is the same area the tree needs to expand its root system out into, the first growing season, which is approximately a 20 to 30 foot radius of the trunk. Mulch with organics or wood chips about 4 to 6 inches deep over the entire future root zone area, leaving a bare 4-inch to 6 inch area directly around the trunk. Feed with Earth Magic and Protein Crumbles twice a year.

If a **temporary water basin** is needed, make it as big as possible. Build the walls of the basin above the surrounding soil level, making sure that the tree's root crown remains at soil level. Fill your basin with mulch. Using basin watering long term will affect the overall size, growth rate and health of your tree. Roots only grow into soil that is moist, limiting that area greatly increases your chances for problems with tangled roots, limited growth, lower nutrient uptake, wind throw (trees being blown over in strong wind) and stress. A stressed tree is more vulnerable to bugs and diseases.

**Do not depend on drip irrigation to water trees as it will not create a large enough wet spot in the ground to grow a satisfactory tree.**

**Protect your trees from dogs, cats or other animals with Tree Shelters.**

### Trees That Please

Located at: 3084 Highway 47, Los Lunas, NM 87031

Mailing address: 9 Gilcrease Rd. Los Lunas, NM 87031

Phone 505-866-5027 Email [treesthatplease@comcast.net](mailto:treesthatplease@comcast.net)