

Tree Planting Guide lines

Dig a shallow, broad hole, three times the diameter of the root ball – but only as deep as the root ball. If you have heavy, clay soil – don't plant the tree as deep as the root ball.

Identify the root flare – where the roots spread at the base of the tree. The root flare should be visible, just above the ground. If the tree is planted too deep, new roots will have difficulty developing due to lack of oxygen.

Set the root ball on firmly-packed soil to prevent settling. Cut the burlap, rope and wire away from the top one-third (or more) of the root ball. DO NOT remove the remaining basket or burlap, doing so will stress the tree, likely killing it due to the root ball falling apart from trying to remove the basket. Put the original soil back in the hole, Gently pack the backfill – using water to settle soil around the root ball.

If the soil is highly compacted or deficient in some way, amend with organic matter such as compost or organic peat. Mix with the native soil and use as backfill.