

TREE POWER PROGRAM

Planting Your New Hardwood Tree

Proper planting technique and care will help your tree survive and stay healthy. Here are some guidelines to follow when planting.

Handling your Tree

- Lift your tree by the pot, not by the trunk

Planting Site

- To reduce home energy costs, plant your tree where it will provide the most shade
- If you are unsure of buried utilities, call before you dig – Ontario One call 1-800-400-2255 or www.on1call.com
- Clear any debris (stumps, rocks, etc.) from planting site
- Avoid planting in wet depressions
- Do NOT plant your tree in the following locations:
 - Under utility wires
 - Over a septic system
 - Close to buildings
 - On City of Stratford property
 - Near sidewalks, driveways, patios and foundations
 - Under the crown of a live tree

Planting

- Prior to planting, ensure soil within pot is moist
- Dig planting hole 30 cm (12 in) wider in diameter than the root ball (pot)
- Dig hole just deep enough that the soil in the pot is level with the ground and the tree sits on a firm base
- Lower potted tree into hole, checking for depth and fit
- Remove tree from hole, slide off the pot, if the tree is root bound (roots circling the root ball) massage the roots gently with your fingers to loosen them up and place the tree back in the hole, leaving bamboo stake in place
- Ensure tree is vertical
- Firm tree in with a mixture of topsoil and compost, tamping with your foot to eliminate air pockets
- Keep bamboo stake in place for one year

Mulching & Weed Control

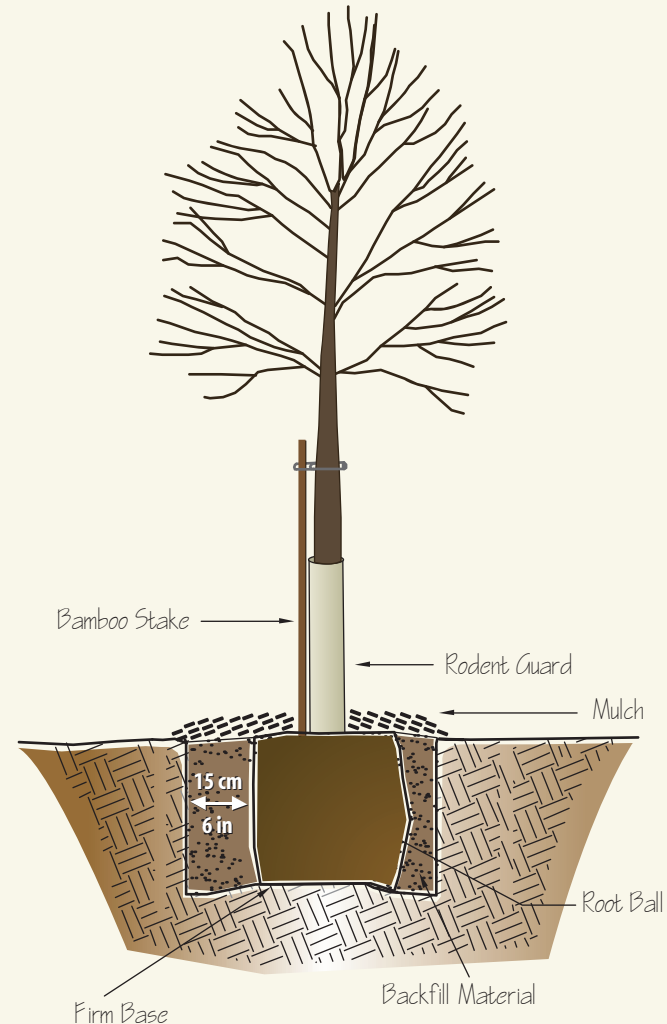
- Mulch with wood chips to a depth of 5-10 cm (2-4 in) to reduce weed competition, retain moisture and reduce fluctuations in soil temperature
- Spread the mulch in a circle around the tree, keeping it away from the trunk to avoid stem rot
- Do not use string grass/weed trimmers around any trees, regardless of size

Rodent Protection

- Place rodent guard around stem to protect it from mice and rabbits during winter

Watering

- Ensure trees are thoroughly watered at planting
- In times of drought, water thoroughly once a week



UPPER THAMES RIVER
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Festival Hydro

www.thamesriver.on.ca

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