

**Brought to you by the NJ Tree Foundation** 

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## **Tree Planting & Maintenance**

### Abbreviated.

### **Full video recording links:**

Tree Planting & Maintenance part 1 Tree Planting & Maintenance part 2 Tree Planting & Maintenance part 3

### Move the trees to their planting locations

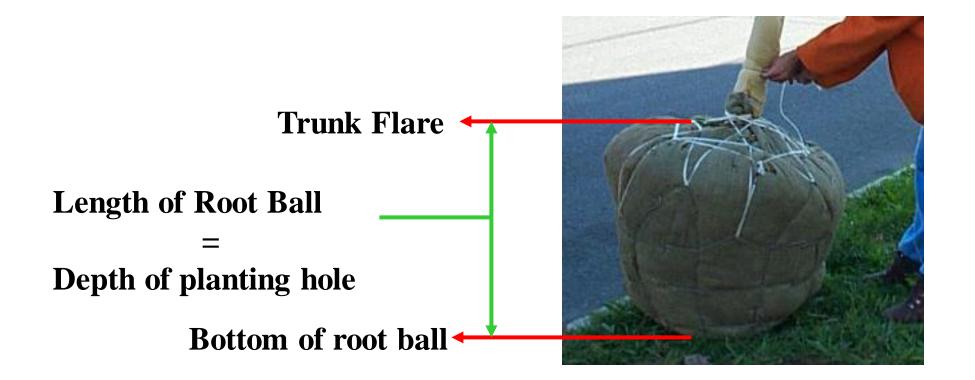


Make sure the trunk is always protected.



## Measure the depth of the root ball

Make sure your hole depth and root ball depth are the same Measure the root ball from below the flare (root collar) to the bottom of the ball. Measure the hole. Measure Again.





### Use two shovels to get correct depth





### Make the tree pit as wide as possible.

### **Clip off the bottom of the basket**



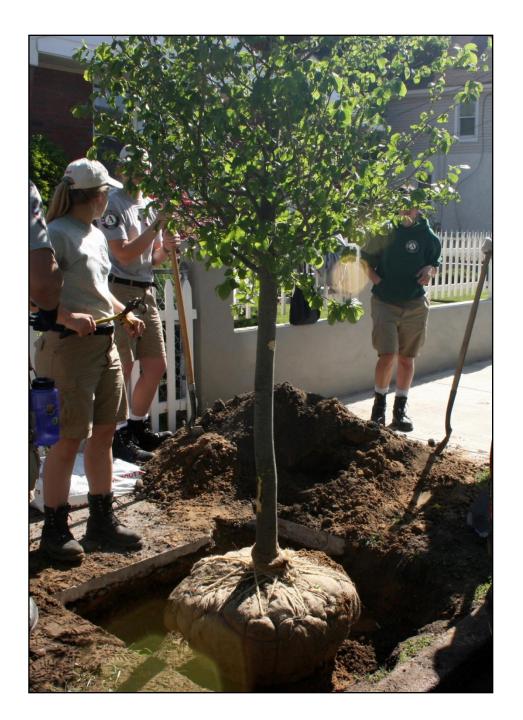


### Clip up once & mark where you clipped





# Ease the tree into the hole.



### Make sure the tree is straight, centered, and stabilized in the pit.

# **Remove the rest of the basket – usually one clip**



### **Remove the twine**...





### Remove the burlap

### **Naked Rootball**

### **Correct Depth – The flare is above the sidewalk/lawn!**



# Fill in with soil. STOMP down the soil to remove air pockets.





### What's next?

#### MULCH!

Mulch like a doughnut. Mulch out not up. Mulch wide not high.

Why do we mulch? Regulates soil temperature Reduces weeds Regulates soil moisture Adds nutrients Mimics the forest floor



### Water

- Trees that are harvested from the nursery lose <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of their roots and become less efficient at taking up water.
- Browning, wilting, scorch, and dieback after very hot or cold weather are usually caused by lack of available water.



• Don't over-water!

Water

- Water 20 gallons/week for two years after planting
- Spring, summer, & fall
- Water deeply
  - Hose
  - Fill mulch 'donut'
  - Tree gator
  - Bucket
  - Gallon/2 Liter bottles





• Grass and weeds compete for the same water and nutrients as the tree.

Remove any grass or weeds growing in the tree bed.
Pull out by hand.
Newspaper & .....



### Protect

- Don't nail/staple stuff to your tree.
- Remove holiday lights before spring.
- Do not allow ornaments or bird houses to cut the trunk or girdle the tree.
- Keep lawn mowers and string trimmers away from tree to avoid wounding trunk.
- Keep winter salt out of your tree bed. Use sand.