

# Planting Trees & Shrubs

Most trees and shrubs you purchase from Aubin Nurseries will come in a container. Planting container grown stock is fairly easy, and shouldn't require any specialty tools. With just a shovel and a sharp knife you can get started planting your newly purchased trees and shrubs.

## How to Plant Container Grown Stock

1. Select where you want to place your plant, make sure you check the label for sunlight requirements.
2. Dig your hole. The hole should be the same depth as the root ball and 6-10" wider all around.
3. Remove your plant from the container. Sometimes you may need to cut the container down the sides to get it off. Fiber pots do not need to be removed, but you do need to make a series of cuts around the pot to encourage root growth.
4. Cut any circling roots, lightly loosen the dirt around the roots if it is compacted.
5. Place your plant into the centre of the hole.
6. Backfill around the plant about 1/3 to 1/2 of the way up with a mixture of the soil from the hole, peat moss, and a bit of bone meal.
7. Soak with water, allowing the water to fully absorb and the soil to settle.
8. Fill up the remainder of the hole with the soil mixture.
9. Water generously

## After Planting Maintenance

Care and maintenance after planting is important to ensure continued growth.

- Remove all tags and labels, its a good idea to keep the tags to reference.
- Trees should be staked for the first year they are planted. Trees in high-traffic areas or where there is a lot of wind may need to be staked for the first two years. Evergreens rarely need to be staked.
- Suckers and/or damaged branches can be removed
- Make sure you water your plants throughout the growing season, especially during times of drought.
- Using fertilizer during the growing season is also encouraged.
- You can prune your trees shrubs, for more info about pruning check out both of our pruning info sheets 'Intro to Tree Pruning' and 'Pruning Landscape Plants'

## Why Bone Meal?

Bone meal is a great source of phosphorus, it helps encourage strong root growth. Bone meal added during spring planting will slowly release nutrients for up to 4 months.



## Fertilizer

The best time to fertilize your plants is early in the spring when you see new buds forming, or at time of planting in the spring. Always use fertilizer in conjunction with watering to avoid damage