



# PLANTING GUIDE

## Planting 101

“What do I do if my plant is in a pot? How do I plant a balled and burlapped tree? Does the basket stay on or do I take it off?” These are all questions the team answers each year and we will cover some solutions in this Planting Guide.



### Dig

The first step is to dig hole 1.5 – 2x the width of the root ball (even if your plant is in a pot or ball and burlap) and no deeper than the root ball in height.

**IMPORTANT:** If any plant is planted too deeply it may lead to failure. If your plant is in a container remove the pot and score the roots with a sharp knife or scratch the roots with a 3 or 4-pronged hand cultivator.

Add *Van Wilgen's Premium Planting Mix* to the existing soil from the hole. Place the plant in the hole, making sure the top of the root ball is at, or slightly above ground level. This step will ensure the plant isn't too deep or over mulched.



### Fertilize

Apply either *Van Wilgen's Jumpstart* or *Organic Root Boost* directly to the root system of the plant. Backfill the hole with a mix of the soil and *Van Wilgen's Planting Mix*. Lightly tamp the soil to remove any air pockets.

*\*If you are planting a balled and burlapped tree or shrub follow the same steps as mentioned above. Instead of removing the container, take off all burlap and wire basket. This will ensure your plant doesn't develop girdled roots.*



### Mulch

After backfilling, you can apply a 2-3" layer of mulch to the base of your new planting. Keep the mulch at least 3" away from the stem of any plant. Mulching will give your planting a beautiful finished look but more importantly it will help retain moisture for the root system.



### Water

Typically, infrequent deep-watering is better for root development than short, frequent watering.



Pick up our tried-and-tested *Success Kit* that helps reduce transplant shock and promotes fast and healthy root growth. Ask a team member for more info!



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