

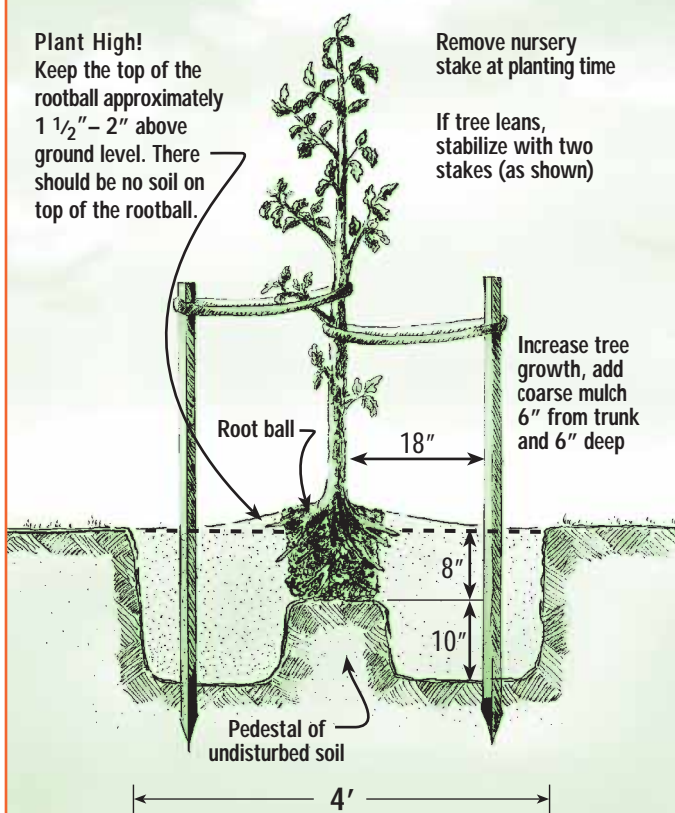
Sacramento Shade

Tree Planting Guide

Plant High!
Keep the top of the rootball approximately 1 1/2" - 2" above ground level. There should be no soil on top of the rootball.

Remove nursery stake at planting time

If tree leans, stabilize with two stakes (as shown)



Call Underground Service Alert four working days before you dig: **1-800-227-2600**.

This is a free service.



SMUD
SACRAMENTO
MUNICIPAL
UTILITY DISTRICT

A Not-for-Profit Electric Utility



Sacramento Shade

Tree Planting Tips

Plant your trees as soon as possible!

PREPARE HOLE FOR TREE

- Shave and discard grass and weeds from the planting site. The hole should be 4 feet wide in shape of a rough square or circle. Dig the hole, leaving an undisturbed pedestal in the center.

PLANT HIGH

- Loosen and straighten outside and bottom roots prior to placing the rootball on the pedestal. The rootball (where the trunk meets the roots) should be 1½" to 2" above ground level. Backfill the hole with the soil you removed. Do not place soil on top of the rootball.

STAKING

- Remove the nursery stake (the thin stake attached to the trunk) tied to your tree. If the tree leans, stake with two stakes 18" from the trunk. Ties should be loose so that the tree can move in the breeze. Check the stakes and ties periodically, removing them when the tree is able to stand on its own.

MULCH

- Apply at least 6" of wood chips or other organic mulch around the tree, 6" away from the trunk. Discourage grass, weeds, ground cover or flowers from growing in this area for at least 3 full growing seasons.

DEEP WATER

- Place a hose close to the trunk. Let it trickle long enough to saturate the rootball and planting area. This should be done twice a week for the first two months after planting, except in cool or rainy weather. Do not depend on sprinklers to deep water. The first three years of watering are crucial to the growth and establishment of your tree.

PROTECT THE TRUNK

- Damage from mowers and string trimmers will stunt the growth of the young tree permanently and may even kill it if the trunk becomes girdled. This can be avoided by keeping vegetation away from the trunk and keeping the area around the tree thickly mulched.

More Information

- Call the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Stewardship Hotline at 1-800-924-LEAF(5323), or visit www.sactree.com
- To sign up for your FREE trees call SMUD at 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) or visit www.smud.org