

## WINTER CARE

Using the guidelines above, water at least once/month during winter months when the temperature is above freezing and weather conditions dry. Snow provides very little water when it melts, so don't rely on snowfall to satisfy your plants' hydration needs. To help prevent water loss through needles and leaves, apply an anti-transpirant, such as **Wilt-Pruf**, to newly planted evergreens and broadleaf evergreens (applied to blue spruce, the color will fade temporarily). We also recommend covering broadleaf evergreens with burlap.

## PROTECTION FROM ANIMALS

To prevent deer and small animals from ravaging your trees, shrubs, and plants, we recommend repellants, such as **Bobbex**, **Repels All**, or **I Must Garden**, which all come in spray and granular applications. To prevent deer from eating your plants' foliage and damaging the bark on your trees with their antlers, we also recommend placing deer fencing or a trunk protector around your plants.

## PLANTING ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

While plants are still in their containers, water them thoroughly and then stage them in your garden taking into consideration their mature height and width as well as their sun/shade requirements. Determining spacing and positioning of plants is particularly important prior to planting as you will want to avoid having taller plants blocking smaller plants from your view and from the sun.

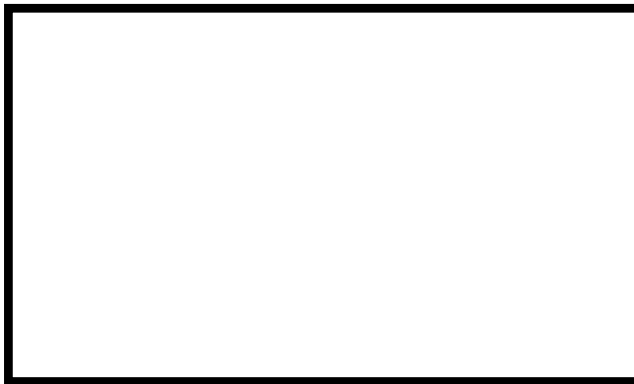
Dig your holes about twice the diameter of the container and just as deep. Create a blend of amended soil using an equal mixture of your excavated soil with **Cotton Burr Compost** or **Peat and Sheep**. Gently remove plants from their containers while supporting the root ball. Carefully loosen the root ball with your fingers. For tightly bound root balls, use a garden trowel or knife to make shallow cuts in the root system. Liberally sprinkle **MYKE** into each hole, place plants in the newly dug holes, and backfill with amended soil so that the top of the root ball sits at the same height as the soil around the hole. Gently compress the amended soil to eliminate air pockets around the root ball. Apply **Western Red Cedar Mulch** around your plants. Remember to avoid having the mulch touch the plants' stems and crowns.

Use **Fertilome Root Stimulator** for your plants' first watering and feed your plants with **Fertilome All-Purpose Plant Food** once every 2 weeks over the entire growing

season. Water your plants daily or twice daily if the weather is particularly hot, dry, and windy. For best results be consistent in the timing and amount of your daily watering throughout the growing season. Annuals and perennials should receive about a half a gallon of water per day.

If you are planting annuals and perennials in pots and baskets, we recommend using a well-draining soil such as **Fertilome Ultimate Potting Soil**, which is excellent for promoting and maintaining rapid growth and root development.

For successful planting we recommend the following products:



Brady's West Garden & Floral  
7121 Co Rd 107, Salida, CO 81201  
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# BRADY'S WEST GARDEN & FLORAL PLANTING GUIDE





## BEFORE YOU PLANT

Colorado Law requires that you call for location of underground utilities 3 business days before you dig. Call the Utility Notification Center of Colorado at 811/ 800-922-1987.

## THE PLANT

Trees and shrubs, which we sell in both containers or ball and burlap (B & B), can be planted anytime the ground is not frozen. For best results, plant your trees and shrubs immediately after purchase. If you can't plant them immediately, place them in a shady/sheltered location and keep them well watered.

## KNOW YOUR PLANT'S NEEDS

Trees and shrubs are particular when it comes to their sun/shade, spacing, and watering requirements. Make sure you are familiar with, and heed, these requirements before you plant, thus insuring your trees and shrubs' success in its new home.

## PREPARING THE HOLE

Dig your hole 1.5 times as wide as the diameter of plant's root ball or container and slightly deeper. This extra space will allow you to add your soil amendment mixture around the plant's roots. **Mix Cotton Burr Compost or Peat and Sheep** with your excavated soil to form a 70/30 soil amendment blend. Place a few shovels full of amended soil in the bottom of the hole so that the tree or shrub will sit



level with the surrounding ground. Before permanently setting your plant, sprinkle a generous amount of **MYKE** (Mycorrhizae) in the bottom of the hole. In addition to promoting your plant's growth and health, using **MYKE** will provide you with a 2-year guarantee. Also apply **MYKE** to the sides of your plant's root system before backfilling the hole.

## PLANTING B & Bs

Do **NOT** remove any burlap, ropes, straps, strings, or wire before planting. Liberally sprinkle **MYKE** into the bottom of your hole and then set the tree or shrub at its proper depth and make sure it is oriented the way you want it. Next,

backfill the sides of the hole with amended soil until the hole is about 3/4s filled, gently compacting the mixture with your shovel in the process. Now, cut and remove any burlap, ropes, straps, strings, or wire from the top of the root ball, folding these materials down over the root ball a few inches. Do **NOT** attempt to remove any materials below the root ball, as you may damage the root system. Finally, continue to backfill the hole, gently compacting the amended soil until the soil in the hole is level with the surrounding ground.

## PLANTING CONTAINERIZED PLANTS

Make sure that your plant is thoroughly watered, then carefully remove it from the container. If the plant roots are growing in a circular fashion inside of the pot, gently tease them to encourage them to grow outward into the soil. If



the plant is densely root-bound, it will be necessary to make several shallow cuts with a sharp knife along the sides and bottom of the root mass to stimulate outward root growth. After liberally sprinkling **MYKE** at the bottom of the hole, position your tree or shrub in the hole and backfill with your 70/30 soil mix, gently firming around the plant as you go, until the soil level is even with the surrounding ground.

## FIRST WATERING

Create a small ring or berm around the outer edge of your hole to hold water and mulch. For your first watering, mix **Fertilome Root Stimulator** with water and apply slowly to your new tree or shrub. Water shrubs and small trees with 1-2 gallons and larger trees with 3-4 gallons. Root stimulator reduces transplant shock and helps ensure that your tree or shrub will get off to a healthy start in its new home. (You can apply Root Stimulator several times in the first few months after planting.) Apply 3-4 inches of **Western Red Cedar Mulch** around the plant, being careful to keep the mulch 3-4 inches away from the trunk or stem to prevent disease and insect infestation.

## STAKING

All large trees planted in potentially windy areas should be staked using 2-4 metal or wooden 6' stakes. Use arbor ties or tree straps to secure the tree to the stake. Remove stakes and ties after one year to avoid inhibiting trunk development.

## WATERING TIPS

All trees and shrubs benefit by **SLOW** and **DEEP** penetrating watering methods. Because the root ball of newly planted trees and shrubs dry out quicker than the surrounding soil, it is important to carefully monitor your new plantings to ensure they are getting enough water to live. Slow watering, like that provided by a drip system or a watering bag or bucket with small (1/8 inch) hole, which we highly recommend, allows water to penetrate to the bottom of the root system and encourages widespread root development. Avoid watering by hand because this method generally results in underwatering. Underwatering a new tree or shrub, even for a single day, can lead to its death during hot, dry weather. Instead of standing over your plant hose in hand, remove the spray nozzle, turn the flow of your hose to a trickle, and set the hose down near the base of the plant and let the water run for 15-20 minutes.

**In general, follow these guidelines for watering your new trees and shrubs:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> month: Water daily (Shrubs: 1-2 gallons; Trees: 2-4 gallons, depending on size)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> month: Water every other day.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> month: Depending on the plant's specific water requirements, water 2-3 times/week.

Once established, continue watering shrubs 2-3 times/week with 1-2 gallons each time, especially during hot, dry, and windy weather, although drought tolerant shrubs can be watered every other week once they are established. According to the Colorado State Forest Service, the general rule of thumb is to water mature trees 10 gallons per inch of trunk diameter (as measured about 4 inches off the ground). Thus, a 2" tree, should receive 20 gallons at each watering. We suggest that you water your mature trees 2-3 times/month. Drought tolerant trees can be watered less frequently, once per month using the same logic.

## FERTILIZING

Do **NOT** fertilize new trees or shrubs; rather wait until spring of the following year to apply fertilizer. We recommend using **Fertilome Tree and Shrub Food** twice a year. Once in the spring (early May) to promote both leaf and root development and again in the early fall (early September) to promote root growth.