

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

FACT SHEET

CHOOSING & PLANTING A NEW TREE

COMMUNITY FORESTRY SERIES



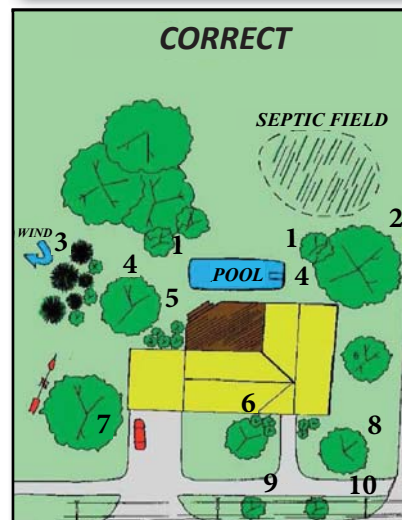
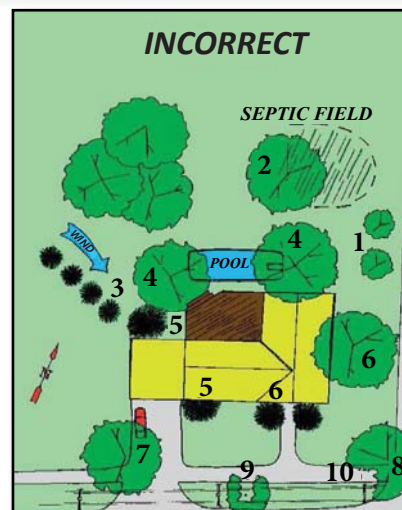
Congratulations on choosing to enhance your property with the addition of a new tree. Planting a tree can increase your privacy and property values and will help the environment by sequestering carbon dioxide and controlling stormwater runoff.

No matter the reason for choosing to plant a new tree, selecting and caring for your new tree can make all the difference in ensuring that your investment stays healthy and strong for many years to come.

Right Tree for the Right Location

Even the best maintained tree will not do well if it is planted in an area that a particular species is not suited for. REMEMBER-trees are a long term investment so why not invest some time in planning your landscape!

1. Plant understory trees, like dogwoods, in shade, not in full sun.
2. Do not plant water-loving trees near septic fields.
3. Align trees for wide screens where they will block winter wind, not where wind will funnel around or between them.
4. Avoid planting trees with leaf or fruit "litter" near pools, decks and paving. Locate them where they will provide shade and can self-mulch.
5. Avoid planting evergreens where they block winter sun. Instead, plant deciduous trees for summer shade and winter solar radiation.
6. Avoid planting trees too close to the house. Plant further away, or plant smaller trees and shrubs.
7. Cars often scrape and bruise tree trunks. Locate trees away from parking spaces or areas where they can be vandalized.
8. Branches can create hazards or block views. Locate trees away from street corners or vehicle and pedestrian traffic.
9. Avoid planting trees directly under utility lines. Locate trees away from lines or plant smaller, low-growing trees or large shrubs.
10. Plant trees away from sidewalks to allow root expansion without pavement buckling.



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Did you know...

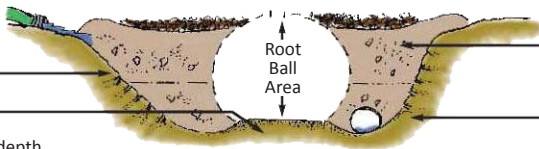
One small front yard tree can add 1 % to the overall value of your home and a full grown tree can add as much as 10 %. Learn more about these and other benefits trees have in fact sheet No. CFS 1.

Planting your New Tree

Give your tree a great start by following the planting instructions below.

BAREROOT	CONTAINER GROWN	BALLED & BURLAP B & B
 <p>Heel in plants if not planted immediately. Neatly cut away any broken or damaged roots. Soak for a few hours prior to planting to rehydrate.</p>	 <p>Plastic or metal containers should be removed completely. Carefully cut through any circling roots. Remove top half of pressed peat/paper containers.</p>	 <p>Cut baling ropes. Pull burlap down at least 1/3 of the way; slit remaining burlap to encourage root growth. If in a wire basket, cut away top section.</p>

THE PERFECT PLANTING HOLE



Partially backfill, water to settle soil, then finish backfilling hole.

Widen and score hole wall.

Leave solid soil pedestal.

Do not dig deeper than root ball depth.

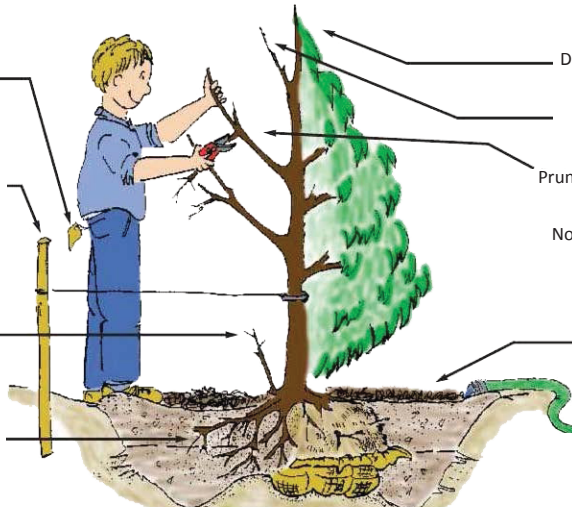
Root Ball Area

Unamended backfill soil (no peat, bark, sand, etc.)

Area for water drainage (pipe or tile could be installed)

Dig hole 2-3 times root ball width

YOUR FINISHED PLANTING



Remove tags and labels.

Do not stake trunk unless the tree has a large crown, the planting is in a windy area or is in an area where people may push it over.

Stake for a maximum of one year.

Prune basal suckers.

Evenly spread roots out over soil pedestal before filling.

Do not prune terminal leader or branch tips.

Prune any codominant leaders or narrow crotch angles.

Prune rubbing or crossed branches

Prune any broken branches

Note: Evergreens rarely requiring staking!

Add 2" - 3" of mulch kept away from trunk

Soak soil well, making sure no air pockets form between roots, then apply mulch.

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