



# PLANTING YOUR NEW TREE

Planting a new tree is a very exciting time and can seem overwhelming without some guidance. Therefore, it is always helpful to have a handy set of instructions to create a stress free process for you and the tree! The steps that have been provided will help ensure that the planting is successful and the tree has the best chance at surviving.

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Pick a location where you want to plant the tree.
- Use stakes to visualize the locations of the tree.
- Once the spot is picked out don't forget to call 811
  - They will mark where all of the underground utilities are on your property to help you determine the perfect spot for your tree
- Learn planting techniques from the QR code & link:

<https://m.stihlusa.com/information/videos/how-to-plant-a-tree-10-steps/>



## THINGS YOU MIGHT NEED:



WORK GLOVES



PITCHFORK & SHOVEL



SMALL HAND TOOLS



GARDEN HOSE



LARGE TRASH BAGS



WATERPROOF TARP



WOOD-CHIP MULCH



A FEW COMPANIONS

# Time For Action!

DO NOT PLANT UNTIL YOU HAVE CALLED 811 AND THE UTILITY LINES ARE MARKED

1) Use a shovel to remove the sod in a 3ft diameter circle and loosen the soil up with a pitchfork. All excess soil and sod can be placed on a tarp for easy clean up!

2) Dig a hole between 3 to 4 times wider than the container your tree is in and deep enough where the trunk flare is. Make sure the sides of the hole are sloped like a bowl to facilitate proper root growth.

3) Remove the tree from the container carefully making sure the soil continues to surround the roots. It is important that the root system stays moist during this process, so water as needed.

4) Once removed from the container place the tree in a trash bag if there will be a wait between removing from the container and placing the tree in the hole. Soak the roots before planting

5) Place the tree in the middle of the hole so that the trunk flare is slightly above ground level. Then fill the hole with soil up until you hit the root collar.

6) Spread the roots throughout the hole radially to prevent any future girdling roots. After this is done make sure that the tree is center and straight!

7) Fill the soil and have someone help hold the tree straight. After every few scoops add water to help the soil settle. Repeat this process until the hole is full and the water settled the soil.

8) After filling and watering the hole, spread mulch 2-3 inches deep in the circle around the tree. DO NOT put the mulch against the trunk or cover the trunk flare as this can harm the health of the tree.

Update us how your tree is growing by uploading posting status updates and photos on Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag #Treefie



Trunk Flare

Helpful anatomy of a tree

To find out more about how you can support Trees Lexington! please visit our website: [treeslexington.org](http://treeslexington.org)

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