

**IDNR, DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
COMMUNITY & URBAN FORESTRY  
TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATIONS RECOMMENDED BY  
THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE**

**Tree Planting Guidelines For Balled - Burlapped**

Limit pruning at time of planting. Prune only crossover limbs, co-dominant leaders, and broken or dead branches.

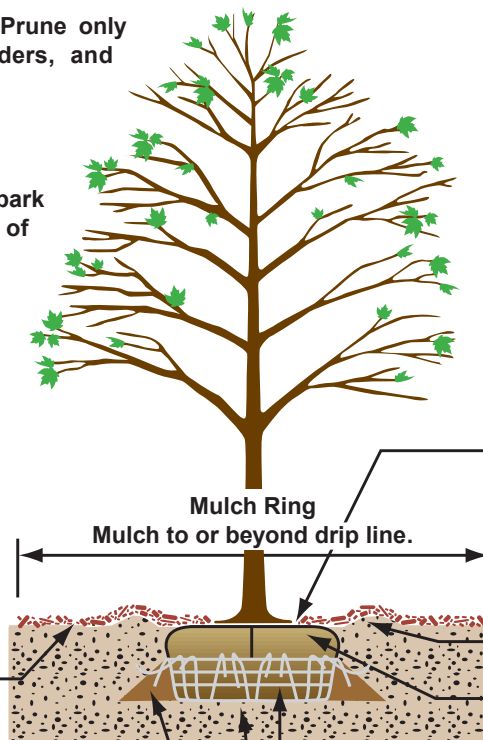
Stake trees only if in a windy site.

Wrap tree trunks only if it is a thin bark species. Remove wraps at end of winter.

If possible - mark the north side of the tree in the nursery, and rotate tree to face north at the site when ever possible.

In wet or slowly draining areas - position the (flare) 1-2 inches above grade.

2 in. mulch. Do not place mulch in contact with tree trunk. Maintain the mulch weed-free for a minimum of three years after planting.



Each tree must be planted so that the trunk flare is at grade level. Do not cover the top of the root ball with soil.

4 in. high earth saucer beyond edge of root ball.

Remove all twine, rope and wire, and burlap from top half of root ball.

If plant is shipped with a wire basket around the root ball, cut the wire basket in four places and fold halfway down planting hole. Follow same procedure with synthetic baskets.

Place root ball on unexcavated or tamped soil.

Gently tamp soil around root ball base firmly with foot pressure so that root ball does not shift.



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*American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 (Part 6)-2005 Transplanting for Tree Care Operations--Tree, Shrub, and other Woody Plant Maintenance--Standard Practices (Transplanting)*