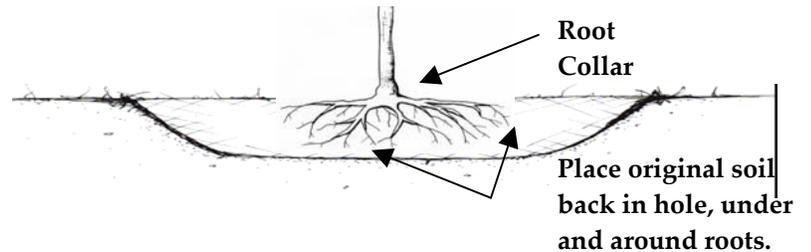




How to Plant a Bare Root Tree

- **Roots.** The trees that you are planting are bare root, there is no soil around the roots. Make sure the roots do not dry out. When you receive your tree, protect the roots from drying out while digging the hole by placing under mulch, a wet towel or a tarp. If the roots appear dry, wet them prior to planting.

- **Dig your Hole.** Spread the roots out and dig the hole 2-3 times as wide as the roots and deep enough so the root collar (where the roots meet the base of the trunk) is at ground level.



- **Plant your Tree.** Place the tree in the hole, make sure it's straight and the root collar is at ground level. Add the planting gel packet to the bottom of the hole. Using the original soil (do NOT add soil amendments or fertilizer) refill the hole a few inches at a time. Gently but firmly tamp down each layer of the soil around the roots to remove air pockets. Place tree guard around trunk.



- **Water.** Water the tree thoroughly. Continue to water every week during the growing season for the next three years. Water your tree into the fall until the ground freezes.

- **Mulch.** Add a 2-3 inch layer of mulch in a 'doughnut' shape around the base of the tree, leaving a 3 inch wide gap of bare soil between the trunk and the mulch



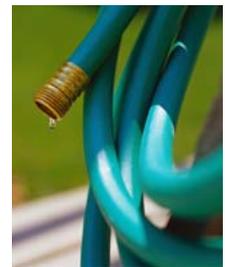


November 2009

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for planting a new tree on the street extension/right-of way in front of your home. As it grows and matures, this tree will provide many benefits, from reducing stormwater runoff to beautifying your neighborhood. Please help this tree become established by doing a few small tasks during the next few years:

- **WATER.** Water the newly-planted tree thoroughly once a week during the first three growing seasons (May-November). A good watering is about 15 gallons applied slowly, with a soaker hose or a hose on a slow trickle for approximately 30 minutes in the mulched area around the tree.



- **MULCH.** Notice that the newly-planted tree has been mulched. Mulch helps conserve moisture in the soil, reduces weeds, and prevents damage from weed whips and lawn mowers. Regularly check the mulch around the tree to maintain a 2" - 3" deep layer. Make a mulch 'doughnut' around the base of the tree so that the rooting area stays moist, but the mulch does not touch the tree's trunk. While the roots like to be moist, the trunk must stay dry.



Correct placement of mulch

- **WEED.** Hand pull any weeds that grow up around the base of the tree as weeds will draw water and nutrients that are necessary for tree growth. To prevent trunk injuries that can kill the newly planted tree, keep weed whips and lawn mowers away from the mulch doughnut. Remove the trunk guard after 1 year.



- **WATCH.** Keep watch over the newly-planted street tree. Check for any signs of insects, diseases or other problems. If you suspect a problem, please contact the Forestry Unit at (734) 794-6364.

November 2009