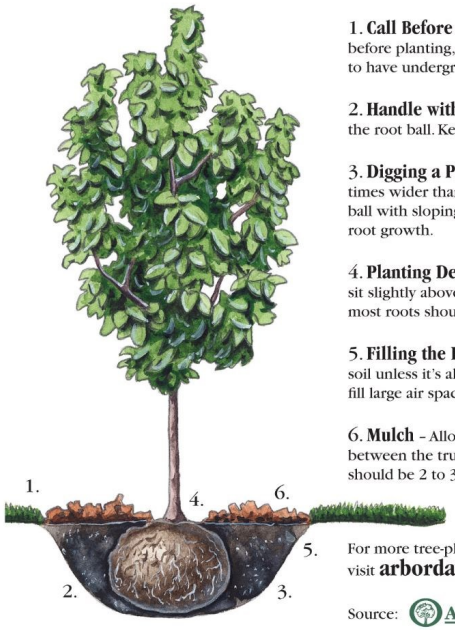
Six things you should know when planting a tree.



1. **Call Before You Dig** - Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. **Handle with Care** - Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. **Digging a Proper Hole** - Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. **Planting Depth** - The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the top-most roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. **Filling the Hole** - Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. **Mulch** - Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit **arborday.org.**

Source: Arbor Day Foundation™
90075201

Watering Your New Tree

Newly planted trees should be watered once a week for the first growing season. Keep the soil moist, but not water logged. If the soil is dry beneath the mulch, it's time to water. Rainfall amounts can vary from week to week and your watering should reflect that. During hot, windy weather a tree will need more frequent watering. Watering bags can also be used, they slowly deliver water to the roots, ensuring more water uptake by the tree.

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

- Warren Buffett

PLACE STAMP HERE

City of West Fargo Public Works
810 12th Ave. NW.
West Fargo, ND 58078

West Fargo Resident
Address
City, State, Zip

City of WEST FARGO

TREE PLANTING GUIDE

City of West Fargo
Forestry Department

Incorrectly placed large trees under power lines

Right Tree - Right Place

Selecting the right tree for the right place is just as critical as planting the tree properly. When selecting a tree, it's important to note the size the tree will be when it's mature. Avoid planting trees too close to your home, sidewalks and driveways.

- West Fargo is in USDA Hardiness Zone 4
- Pick the proper sized tree for the site
- Pick a tree with the right site conditions
- Avoid placing trees with messy fruit next to sidewalks or patios

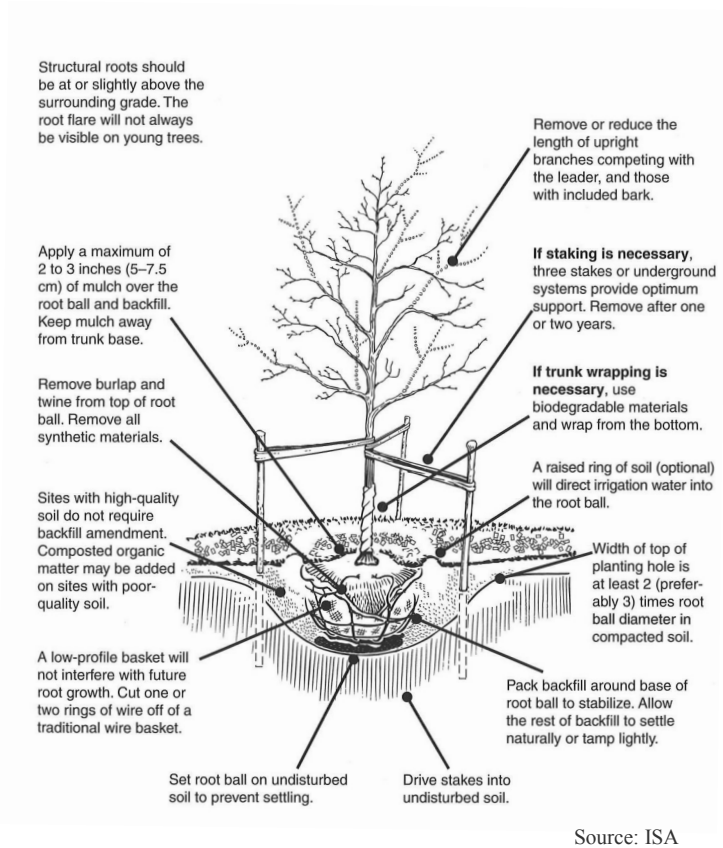
When to Plant

The best time to plant a tree is the spring or fall, as the tree is dormant. During these times weather conditions are cool, which allows the roots to establish before new growth forms. Trees can be planted throughout the growing season if they are given the appropriate care.

Call Before You Dig

ND One Call is required before any planting can take place. Please call 800-795-0555 or 811 for underground utility locates.

Planting Detail



Source: ISA

Proper Planting Steps

After the underground utility locates have been marked, you can now start the planting process.

- **Dig the proper size hole**. The hole created should be at least 2 times the width of the root ball. The depth should be the height of the root ball, proper depth is very important.
- **Placing the tree in the hole.** Any container or wire should first be removed. Inspect the roots, any circling roots should be trimmed. Identify the trunk flare and ensure it is planted at the same level as the existing ground.
- **Finishing the plant.** After the tree is placed in the hole, ensure the tree is straight before starting to backfill. Backfill the hole with soil, after the hole is filled, water the tree to help compact the soil. Note: More soil may be needed after it settles.
- **Added help.** Now that your tree is properly planted, add a few materials to ensure its survival. Mulch: add a mulch ring around the base to help the soil stay cool and moist, 2 to 3 inches is sufficient. Stakes: staking your tree will ensure no damage from the wind, these stakes can be removed after one year.

West Fargo Public Works Facility

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web **www.westfargond.gov**