

Transplanting Your Trees to Their Final Location

After your trees have grown for a year or two in their protected spot, transplant them to their permanent location. Transplanting should take place when the trees are dormant... in the fall after their leaves have dropped or in the early spring before leaves or new growth appears.

1. Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crawling. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid in root growth, turn the soil a foot deep in an area up to five feet in diameter.



2. Within a 2 foot circular area, dig up your tree, keeping soil around the roots. Large or damaged roots may need to be hand-pruned.



3. Handle your trees by the root ball, not the trunk or branches. Don't let the root ball dry out.



4. Do not plant the tree too deep. Plant on firm soil at the same depth it stood in its first location.

5. Partially fill the hole, gently forming the soil around the lower roots.



7. Give the tree plenty of water. Do not fertilize until late spring of the second year after transplanting.



6. Shovel in the remaining soil, packing it firmly but not tightly. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree.



8. Place a 2-inch layer of protective mulch, such as wood chips, around the base (but not touching the trunk) after the water has soaked in. Water generously every week or 10 days during the first growing season.

“Heeling in” Your Trees

If you cannot plant your trees within a few days, it is recommended that you “heel in” your trees.

1. Follow steps 1 - 5 under “How to Plant Your Trees” inside this guide.

2. Dig an angled trench in the ground, preferably in the shade, that will accommodate your trees.



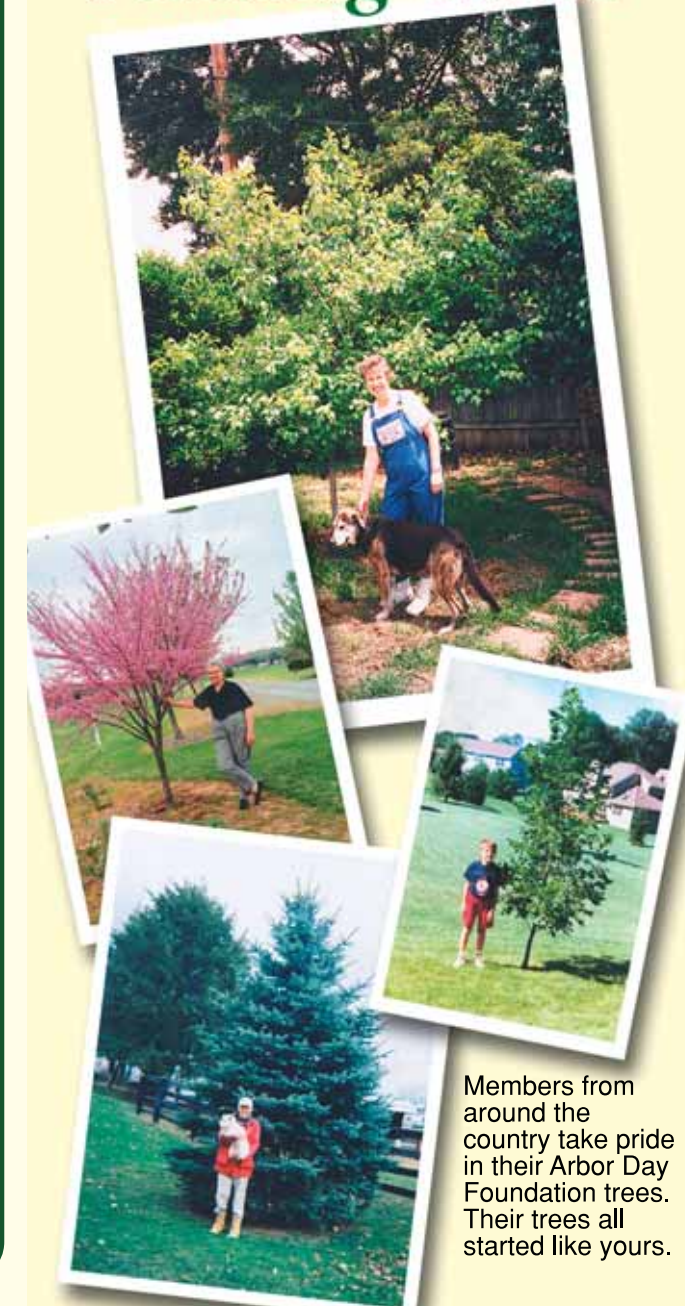
3. Lay the roots of your trees in the angled trench.



4. Fill in the trench covering the tree roots with the dug out soil. Water generously and keep moist until you are ready to plant.



Tree Planting Guide



Members from around the country take pride in their Arbor Day Foundation trees. Their trees all started like yours.

When you are ready to plant, dig up your trees and follow the step-by-step instructions inside.

Tree Planting Record

Arrived: _____ Planted: _____
Transplanted: _____

50058702

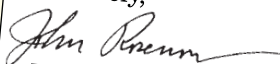
Dear Member:

Planting a tree is the ultimate act of optimism and sharing. It is the one act within reach of nearly every man, woman and child to improve the environment and make this world a better place. It is repayment of our debt to nature for the air we breathe and the joy we know from bird songs, summer shade or the calming beauty of shimmering leaves.

Please use this tree planting guide to give your trees the "best running start" possible.

Thank you for your membership and for planting Trees for America.

Sincerely,



John Rosenow
Chief Executive

Your Dormant Trees Yes, they're alive!

You'll see a big difference in a short time, but you'll need to know a little about dormant trees.

To be sure they arrive in strong, healthy condition, we ship your bare-root trees only when they are dormant in the spring and fall seasons. The roots have been dipped in a hydrating gel to keep them moist during shipping.

When you receive your trees, deciduous trees will generally be leafless and evergreens may have a few yellow needles from winter cold. A tiny scratch in the bark will reveal a living layer of green – your assurance that the trees are still very much alive even though they are “asleep.” Plant your trees carefully, water them well, and allow several weeks for them to put out buds in the spring. They'll soon awaken from their winter sleep.



How To Plant Your Trees

What To Do When You Receive Your Trees

INSPECT your trees in the package. Extensive damage should be reported to our Member Services Department at: 1-888-448-7337 or e-mail memberservices@arborday.org.

Planting your trees the day they arrive: Follow the simple, step-by-step instructions below.

If you cannot plant your trees right away, follow these guidelines:

Storing your trees for 2-5 days: Make sure the tree roots have hydrating gel around them in the root bag. If you find that the tree roots are dry, open the package and wrap wet paper towels around the roots and enclose them again in the root bag with the twist-tie. Place the trees and root bag in the original shipping bag. Put the trees in a cool place without sunlight (such as a garage, basement, or they can even be stored in a refrigerator between 35-45 degrees F) until they are ready to plant and follow the simple, step-by-step instructions below.

Storing your trees for longer than 5 days: Follow the “Heeling in Your Trees” instructions provided in this booklet.

Planting Your Trees

We recommend that you plant your membership trees in a protected area with worked-up soil, such as a garden, for a year or two. Provide a good planting bed, and if necessary, roto-till the soil or turn it over with a spade. This will give those young trees the best chance at a good start. It will reduce competition from weeds and grass, wildlife damage, and the likelihood of being damaged by a lawnmower.



1. Your trees arrived in a clear plastic recyclable package. Remove your trees from the outer bag. The trees are twist-tied together with the roots in a plastic bag of hydrating gel.



2. Fill a bucket partly full of water. Untwist the root bag tie and remove your trees from the hydrating gel bag.



3. Remove the tie on the trees and carefully separate the roots of your individual trees.



4. IMMEDIATELY place your trees in the bucket, submerging the roots. It is very **IMPORTANT** to keep the roots moist. Soak your trees up to 3 - 6 hours.



5. Move your trees to the protected planting site, keeping the roots wet.



6. Using a spade or shovel to open your soil, create a hole as deep as your tree roots are long. Dig one hole per tree, 2 1/2 feet or more apart.



7. Place one tree in a hole, deep enough so that the top-most root is covered by an inch of soil. The roots should lie naturally. Do not fertilize the first year to avoid “root burn.”

8. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly, but not tightly packed. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Continue this step until you have planted all of your trees.



9. Place a 2 inch layer of protective mulch in a 2 1/2 foot diameter around the base of each tree (but not touching the trunk).

10. Give each tree **plenty** of water. During dry weather, water your trees generously every week or 10 days during the first year.



PLEASE NOTE: If your site is a feeding ground for deer, rabbits, etc., it may be a good idea to fence up your new trees.