

# Plant Warranty

## Notes:

COUNTRY LANDSCAPES, INC. guarantees that our plants are hardy and healthy. We will provide a replacement for any **TREE, SHRUB, VINE, or PERENNIAL** (purchased in a container of 1 quart or larger) that dies for any reason other than neglect or damage for 1 year from the date of purchase. **Neglect consists of underwatering or overwatering. Damage includes the following: insect, rabbit, deer or other animal damage, mower or trimmer damage, vandalism damage, and wind, ice, hail or lightning damage.**

COUNTRY LANDSCAPES, INC. does not warranty any plant purchased in a container smaller than 1 quart or any plant purchased in flats.

**PLANTING LABOR CHARGES** are covered for a period of 1 year from the date of purchase under this warranty, if Country Landscapes, Inc. installed the plant.

We reserve the right to substitute a different plant variety after the first replacement if we determine that the original plant is not adapted to the site.

You have the option to “trade up” to a larger size plant. We will apply the original purchase price of the plant that died toward the price of a larger plant.

**TO EXERCISE WARRANTY:** You must present your copy of the sales receipt to exercise your warranty. We will need it to establish proof of purchase, plant species and size. If a plant dies and death is not attributed to any of the above limitations, bring the receipt to our store. We will provide you with a replacement free of charge.



We are here to help you - our valued customer.  
Please give us a call if you have any questions  
that are not covered in this information.

1.800.794.9795  
[www.countrylandscapes.com](http://www.countrylandscapes.com)

## Planting & Watering Basics Guide

INSTRUCTIONS, TIPS AND ADVICE TO HELP YOU CARE FOR YOUR PLANTS



**COUNTRY**  
LANDSCAPES, INC.  
*Distinctive Landscapes Since 1981*

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE

Country Landscapes' premium plants will flourish in your garden. Healthy and vibrant trees, shrubs and perennials all are a sign of a well-tended yard and a wonderful complement to any home. At Country Landscapes, we believe landscaping elements are as much an investment in one's home as siding or windows. One key to a world-class yard and garden is knowing how to plant and water effectively. The truth is many variables can affect your garden. Weather conditions, soil composition and the types of plants, shrubs and trees you wish to grow all must be considered. This guide will provide you with some basic information on how to properly plant and water which will help you grow a lush garden.

### Tree & Shrub Planting Guidelines

Few additions to your home offer as many benefits as landscape plantings. Trees and shrubs invite wildlife, filter the air and release oxygen, and plants beautify and add color to your garden. Getting your plants off to a good start begins with planting them correctly. Country Landscapes recommends the following steps depending on the plant, tree or shrub you've selected:

#### PREPARE YOUR AREA

1. Dig a hole in the soil 12" wider than the diameter of the root ball of your plant. When you place the plant in the hole, there should be 6" of space around the plant and the top of the root ball should be slightly above (1" for well drained soil- 3" for poorly drained or clay soil) the level of the surrounding grade. Planting too deep will result in the death of the plant.
2. If you have poor soil, this is the time to add soil amendments. Compost, manure, peat moss, or loamy topsoil can be mixed with the original soil. Never use all new material for back fill as this can cause moisture gradients to form. A good ratio is around 1 : 3 (amendments to original soil).
3. Handle the plant carefully; move, maneuver, or lift by the pot or root ball. NEVER lift or lever the plant by it's trunk.



**QUICK TIP:** After you bring the ideal plant home, keep it watered and in a sheltered area until you are ready to plant.

#### FOR LARGER SPECIMENS - B & B (BALLED AND BURLAPPED)

1. Place the plant in the hole, checking to be sure it is vertical and that it looks good from all angles. Once the plant is in position, use wire cutters to cut off the top wire loops and as much of the upper wire basket as possible without moving the plant or causing damage to the root ball (the rest of the wire basket can remain). Cut the twine from around the trunk, and cut off the burlap covering the top of the ball. The rest of the burlap can remain to decompose.
2. Backfill around the plant by pushing in a few inches of soil at a time and tamping it firmly with hands, feet or shovel. It's important to eliminate all large air spaces as you backfill the hole. If the soil from the hole is lumpy, take the time to break it up thoroughly before backfilling.
3. Build a low "dike" around the perimeter of the planting hole to form a basin 2-3" deep. This basin will allow you to water the plant without having the water run across your yard away from the plant. Cover the exposed soil with 3" of mulch. Brush mulch away from the base of the trunk.



**QUICK TIP:** Stake plants only if conditions warrant, for example, when planting in a high-wind site, when planting large evergreens, or as recommended by the nursery sales staff. A tree will develop a stronger trunk if not staked. Movement caused by the wind will result in increased growth at the base of the trunk and root system. If staking is required, remove the staking materials within one year.

#### FOR SMALLER CONTAINER-GROWN SPECIMENS

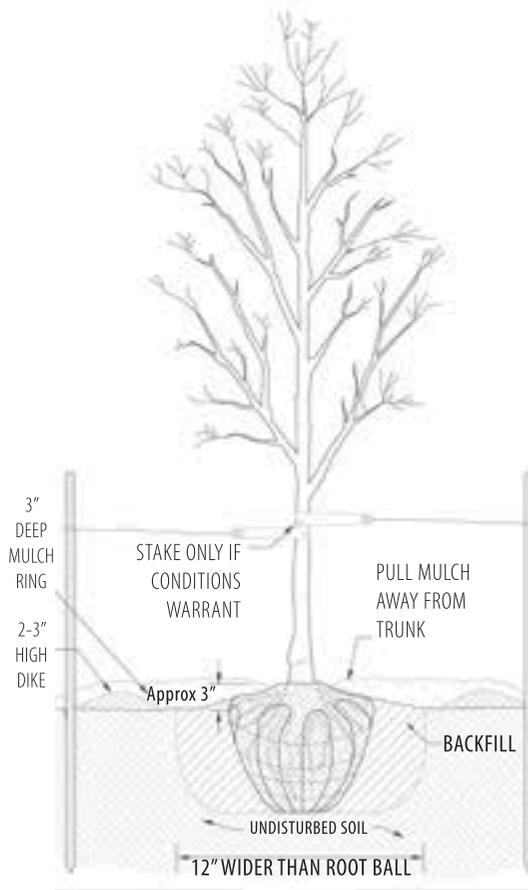
Container-grown specimens are planted the same way as B & B specimens, but with a few added precautions.

**Plants in plastic containers:** Carefully remove the root ball from the container before planting.

**Plants in fiber pots:** Place the plant, pot and all, into the hole; cut or break the rim of the pot and spiral off the top half/two thirds of the pot. The bottom part of the pot will decompose.

**Wrap it up.** Wrapping the trunk of young fruit trees, honeylocust, maples, oaks, and willows with a commercial tree wrap will help protect the trunk from sun scald over the winter. Wrap the tree late in the fall and remove wrap in the spring. Once the trees begin to develop thicker bark they no longer need to be wrapped.

**Protect the bark.** Tree bark protectors will help protect young fruit trees, crabapples, honeylocust, maples, and various other trees from rabbit damage and some deer rubbing damage. There are several types of bark protectors available. Some may even be left on the tree throughout the spring and summer months.



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### Watering Basics

One key to a world-class yard and garden is knowing how to water effectively. **But, how do you know how much and when to water?** There is really no single answer. Weather conditions, soil composition and the types of plants, shrubs and trees you wish to grow are all factors. Country Landscapes recommends following the Basic Watering Rule (below) as a good rule of thumb.

#### Applying the Basic Watering Rule (BWR)

Always check the soil moisture around the base of the plant (under the mulch) prior to watering. If the top 1" of the soil feels wet, there is no need to water.

#### WATERING DURING THE FIRST GROWING SEASON (UPON FIRST PLANTING)

**For trees:** Leave hose at the base of the tree and turn water flow on to equal the width of a pencil. Leave on tree for 20-30 minutes. Repeat every 4-7 days during summer months. Newly planted trees may require more if it is hot and dry (see BWR).

**For shrubs:** Using a watering wand, hold water at the base of each plant for a count of 20 seconds; repeat, if necessary, in cases when there's extreme dryness, a slope which would cause the water to run off, etc. Check shrubs every 4 or 5 days during summer months (see BWR).

**For 1 gallon, 6" and QT size perennials:** Follow the same care as shrubs, but these may need watered every other day (see BWR).

**For 3-4" size pot-grown perennials:** Check these EVERY day during hot, dry weather and less frequently once weather cools down. Hold water on plants and count to 10, repeat if necessary (see BWR).



**QUICK TIP:** More plants die from overwatering than from any other cause.

#### WATERING THROUGH THE NEXT SPRING SEASON AND BEYOND

Most plants will need no additional watering, but will benefit from a deep soaking (as described above for the first growing season) after a few weeks of dry weather.



#### PLANTS TO KEEP MOIST:

Endless Summer  
Hydrangea (when blooming)  
Summersweet | Itea  
Astilbe (when blooming)



#### PLANTS THAT NEED TO DRY OUT BETWEEN WATERING:

Rhododendrons | Junipers | Evergreen Trees  
Sedum | Dianthus | Baby's Breath | Lavender  
Never water if soil is already moist.

#### OTHER TIPS

**Winterize your plants.** Give your trees and shrubs one last deep soaking around Thanksgiving to help them over winter.

**Treat to prevent drying.** Treat your evergreens, boxwoods, rhododendrons, and similar plants with Wilt Pruf® around Thanksgiving. This will help prevent moisture loss (which causes browning or yellowing needles).

#### ABOUT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

If you have an irrigation system installed in your landscape, monitor the watering time and frequency closely. Try to run it at the minimal amount of time so your landscape plants are not overwatered. Irrigation systems should be set to provide 1" of water per zone, once per week. Any irrigation above and beyond this rate endangers your landscape plants and voids the warranty.