



PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS

Containerized

- Dig a hole 2 to 3 times as wide as the container and at the same depth as the plant's root mass.
- Ease the plant out of the container.
- It is imperative to loosen and separate any compacted or circling roots at the base and sides of the plant. Use a knife to score and cut the outside of the root mass (approx. ½" to 1" vertically) to break the circular pattern and use your fingers to tease the roots apart.
- Place the plant in the hole. The root mass should be even with the existing grade.
- Backfill the hole with an amended soil mixture (*see Amend the Soil).
- Bring soil surface to grade and tamp lightly. Please be sure to remove excess soil around the neck of the plant. Water deeply.



- Then, remove as much burlap, rope and wire basket as possible without affecting the integrity of the root ball, using a knife and bolt cutter as needed.
- Backfill the hole halfway with amended soil (*see Amend the Soil). Water the hole to remove any large air pockets and allow water to drain thoroughly.
- Add remaining amended soil mixture until hole is filled to existing grade. Lightly tamp soil surface. Water deeply.

Amend the Soil

Amend the soil at a rate of 1/3 native soil to 2/3 organic material. We recommend using **Coast of Maine™ Penobscot Blend™ Complete Planting Mix**, which consist of 2/3 compost and 1/3 sphagnum moss peat. If the existing ground material is of poor quality it may be necessary to add additional organic material to the mixture.



PLANTING PERENNIALS & ANNUALS

Soil for most perennials and annuals should be amended with several inches of organic **Coast of Maine™ Quoddy Blend™ Lobster Compost**. Dig a hole in the amended soil wide enough and deep enough to contain the plant. Gently remove the plant from its pot by inverting and supporting the root mass. If the roots are compacted to the shape of the container, then gently tease them apart. Place the plant in the hole. Backfill the hole with amended soil and bring to existing grade. Water thoroughly.

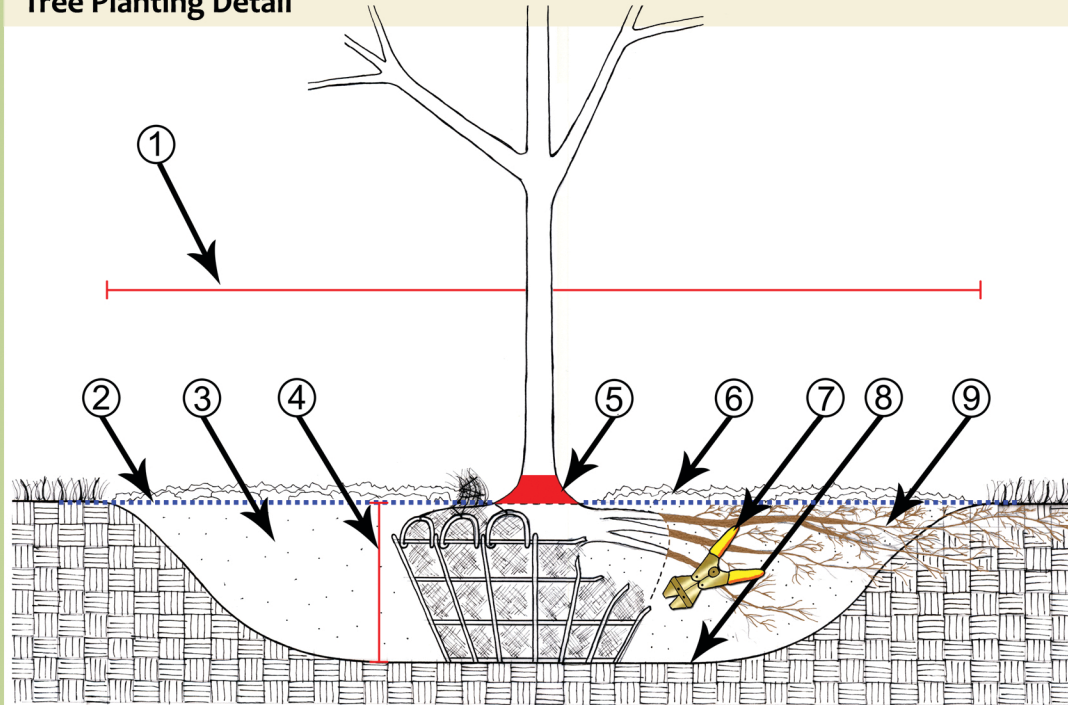
Staking & Guying

Generally, staking is only required for tall heavy canopied trees on windy sites. The material used to attach the tree to the stake(s) should be smooth and flexible. Support stakes and guy wires should be removed after one growing season.

Balled & Burlapped

- Dig a hole as deep as the root ball and at least 2 times as wide in diameter than the width of the root ball. If the soil is compacted or of poor quality the hole should be even larger (3 to 4 times the width of the root ball).
- It is imperative to measure the depth of the root ball from the base of the root flare to the bottom of the root ball. In some cases, the root flare may be buried with excess soil at the top of the root ball. It is often necessary to loosen the burlap at the top of the ball to properly locate the root flare.
- Place the plant in the hole. The plant must rest on firm ground. The bottom of the root flare should be even with or slightly higher than the existing grade.
- Place only enough of the existing soil around the sides of the root ball so that the tree is vertical and adequately supported.

Tree Planting Detail



1. Hole width equals 2 to 3 times the width of the root ball at surface
2. Existing soil surface (blue dotted line)
3. Amended soil
4. Hole depth equals base of root flare to bottom of root ball

5. Root flare above soil surface (shown in red)
6. 2" - 3" layer of mulch; keep away from trunk
7. Cut away the upper one half of the wire basket
8. Firm ground
9. New root growth

