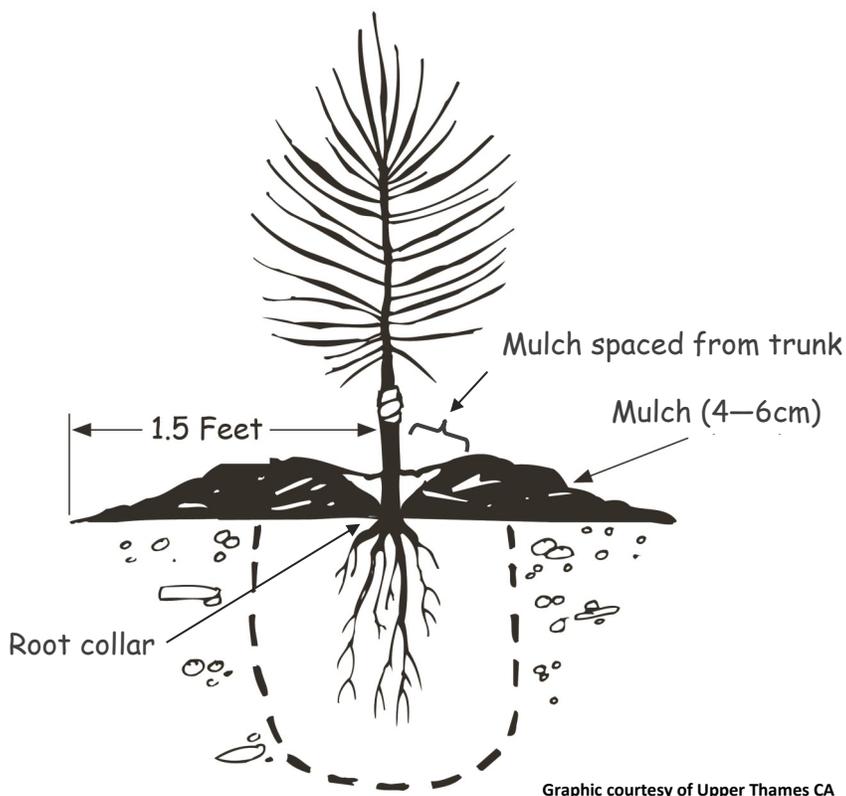


# Tree Planting Guide

## SEEDLINGS



### Planting Your Tree

- Open bag and carefully **cut** elastic around seedling bundles.
- Gently separate roots. If roots are dry, dip them in water.
- Dig a hole that fits the whole root system without bending or bunching the roots.
- A hole is the right depth when the root collar (area where the stem meets the roots) is level with the ground.
- Keeping the tree straight, fill the hole back in with soil, pressing the soil down as you go to remove air pockets around the roots.
- Step firmly around the tree once the hole is filled to pack the soil and tug the tree up gently. If the tree lifts, re-pack the soil.
- Be sure to water the tree after planting.
- **If mulching**, create a ring or “donut” of wood chips around the tree to help control weeds and keep the soil moist.
- Make the mulch 4–6cm (1.5–2.5in) deep, keeping it away from the trunk of the tree so the bark does not rot.

### Planting Tips

#### Site Selection

- Match the trees to your site—consider water, sunlight, and soil type.
- Space your trees away from buildings, hydro lines, roadways, property lines, septic systems, tile drain systems, drain outlets, and any underground utilities.

#### Storage and Transport

- Handle trees with care.
- Keep trees cool during transport.
- Leave bags sealed until ready to plant.
- Plant trees within 24 hours of pickup.
- Store in area between 2-5°C like a barn, cellar, or fridge. Store up to 3 days.
- Do not leave roots exposed to wind.
- Reseal partially planted bags and keep cool until ready to plant the remainder.
- ‘Heel in’, or temporarily plant, trees in pots or a soil bed if storing past 3 days.

#### Weed Control

- Apply herbicide, pull, or mow weeds before planting.
- Mow around trees 3-4 times a year until trees are taller than the vegetation around them, especially in the fall.
- Cover trees with a bucket and spray around them with herbicide.

#### Watering

- Water every week there is less than 3cm of rain in the forecast. Water slowly so roots are soaked deeply.

#### Protection from Wildlife

- Use wildlife spray deterrents, guards, or chicken wire from local hardware stores.