

## Things You Should Know When Planting A Tree Or Shrub

1. **Call Before You Dig** - Several days before planting call Dig Alert at 1-800-422-4133. This is especially necessary when planting large material.
2. **Treat With Care** - It is always important to handle the plant or tree by the root ball or container. This will ensure that the plant is not damaged.
3. **Dig A Proper Hole** - Make sure to dig the hole 2-3 times the width of the root ball or container. This will ensure that the plant will have proper conditions for its root system to establish.
4. **Proper Planting Depth** - The crown of the trunk or plant should always be an inch or two above the finished grade level. It is very important to make sure the plant is not planted too low. It is better to plant it a little too high than too low.
5. **Backfilling The Hole** - It is very important to backfill the hole with native soil mixed with proper soil amendments appropriate for the plant (e.g. mulch for a tree and peat moss for an Azalea). Also, make sure to tamp the soil gently to eliminate air pockets and reduce settling.
6. **Top Dressing** - It is always recommended to top dress around the new planting with an inch of mulch. This will give the plant some additional nutrition as well as condition the soil around it.

