



# Backbone Valley Nursery

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Thank you for purchasing your tree(s) at Backbone Valley Nursery. We realize that there are other places to do your shopping, and we hope that our quality and service will make us your first choice. We hope the tree(s) will provide you with shade and beauty for many years.

## Tree Planting Instructions

1. Dig hole approximately 1 foot wider than the bucket, at least six inches wider on each side. Be sure that the sides of the hole are not smooth, but rough and jagged.
2. The depth of the hole should allow the top of the rootball to be at ground level, **NOT BELOW GROUND LEVEL**. Being a little high is better than being too low.
3. Gently remove the tree from its container by laying the tree on its side and sliding the tree out of its container.
4. Examine the roots of the tree. If the roots of the tree are growing in a spiraling motion, make at least 4 cuts 1/2" deep from top to bottom, and two cuts across the bottom. This process is to ensure that the trees roots do not continue in a spiraling motion, and new roots will flush and grow from these cuts.
5. Gently roll the tree into the hole. Turn the tree so that its best features are facing the desired viewing area, and check that the tree is standing straight.
6. Fill in the space around the tree with the original soil for 3 inches. Then, sprinkle the Agriform fertilizer tablets around the rootball. Fill in the rest of the soil around the rootball. Most often, we recommend backfilling the hole with the original soil, however sometimes compost or topsoil is needed. If necessary mix 1/3 compost or topsoil and 2/3 original soil.
7. Using the handle of the shovel, assure that the soil has filtered down all sides of the hole by gently tamping the soil around the edge of the rootball.
8. With the excess soil, build a dam around the outside of the rootball. This will allow more water to stay around the root zone.
9. Cover the entire area out to the edge of the dam with at least three inches of mulch. Mulch holds moisture, acts as a natural compost, and reduces soil temperature. Pull the mulch away 4" from the trunk of the tree. The moisture from the mulch can rot the bark.
10. Water the tree thoroughly on top of the mulch completely filling the dam with water. Make sure you are completely soaking the rootball of the tree.

Note: We recommend staking trees for the first year to avoid shifting which causes new roots to break off.

We hope this tree will provide you with shade and beauty for many years.

Thanks again for shopping at Backbone Valley Nursery

The Robertson Family

**We give no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the productiveness or life of nursery stock we sell and will not be responsible for result secured upon transplanting.**