



DECIDUOUS TREES

Site planning

All of the deciduous trees we grow mature to be LARGE trees-it is important to consider that when picking your site. Don't plant them under power/utility lines or too close to buildings/infrastructure. Root systems can heave sidewalks, crack driveways and interfere with underground wires/drainage. Most of them prefer well drained soil rich in organic matter with full sun. Like anything you can maintain them smaller with regular pruning but the nature of the beast is to grow big!

Planting

Dig a hole twice the size of the pot and loosen up as much soil as you can around the hole. As you fill in around the root ball be sure to pat the soil down to remove any air pockets. DON'T add fertilizer to the hole as you can burn the roots. Ensure the soil level at the top of the pot is level with the ground - don't bury the trunk deeper than it was in the pot! Water well. Mulching the ground around the tree helps maintain moisture in the soil and cuts down on competition from weeds. DON'T put the mulch right up against the trunk of the tree - keep it out a few inches.

Pruning

When pruning deciduous trees you want to remove any dead, broken or diseased branches to start with. Ideally you want a strong central leader with all branches projecting from it. Remove any suckers from the base of the tree to maintain that strong central leader shape. Prune any inward growing branches as well as any that are rubbing on each other or interfering with other branches. The best time of year to prune is when the trees is dormant-when all the foliage is off the tree.