CHADWICK ARBORETUM & LEARNING GARDENS at The Ohio State University

Tree Planting Instructions

When to Plant

In Ohio, April through mid-June and late October to mid-December are the most common planting times for new trees.

Planting Instructions

- **1.** Before digging your hole, follow the "Right Plant, Right Place" motto. Make sure the planting location has the right conditions for the tree. This includes soil properties, moisture levels, and amount of the sunlight the area receives throughout the day.
- 2. Dig a hole 3 to 4 times wider than the container. The sides of your hole should have a slight slope going towards the bottom. This will allow for proper root growth.
- **3.** Carefully remove the tree from the container, ensuring that the soil remains intact around the root ball. Tapping on the outside of the container helps loosen the root ball from the container. Then carefully slide the tree from the container.
- **4.** Containerized trees sometimes can become root bound. A root bound tree has many of its roots on the outer edge of the root ball. If the tree is like this, cut an X across the bottom of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides with a sharp knife or pruning tool.
- **5.** Set the tree in the middle of the hole. Ensure that the root collar is slightly above ground level. If not, add more soil under the tree until it is above ground level. Next, use some soil to secure the tree in a straight position. Then fill and firmly pack the rest of the hole with the original soil. Lastly, create a soil basin around your hole and give the tree a good watering.

For more information please visit:

https://www.arborday.org/trees/planting/containerized.cfm



First Year Tree Care

Watering

Your newly planted tree will spend lots of its energy trying to establish its roots in the soil. By proper watering, you can help ease this process. Your tree should receive a deep watering every day for two weeks after planting. After that, it will need watering once a week.

Mulching

Mulching will provide your new tree with a way to retain moisture and prevent weeds from growing near it, which would compete for your tree's water and nutrients. Also, do not overmulch the location as this would make the soil too cool and damp. This could increase the likelihood of pests, fungi, and diseases.

For more information about your tree's specific growing requirements, please visit: go.osu.edu/treeinfo





CHADWICK ARBORETUM & LEARNING GARI

Tree Information

Ginkgo

Ginkgo Biloba:

Unique, fan-shaped leaves turn a stunning yellow color in the fall. It can tolerate many urban conditions including heat, air pollution, salt, and confined spaces. And it establishes easily.

Sunlight Requirements: Full sun to part shade, a minimum of four hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

Features:

- Simple, fan-shaped bright green leaves that are 2-3" long and just as wide.
- Provides attractive yellow fall color.
- Works well as a street tree, even in confined spaces.
- Transplants easily and establishes without difficulty.
- Yields naked seeds that are tan in color and plum-like in shape. Some complain of the mess and odor associated with the fruit of the female tree and recommend planting only male specimens. Note: since our trees were planted from seed, you may receive a female!
- Can live as long as 3,000 years.
- May grow slowly for several years after planting.
- Information adapted from the Arbor Day Foundation. Find More Information here.



American Sweetgum

Liquidambar styraciflua

Deep, glossy green star-shaped leaves mark the Sweetgum. Leaves turn yellow-purplered in the fall and stay on the tree quite late. Its shape is pyramidal, becoming more rounded with age.

Grows to a height of 60–75' and a spread of 40-50' at maturity. This tree grows at a medium to fast rate, with height increases of anywhere from 13" to more than 24" per year.

Sunlight Requirements: Full sun is the ideal condition: at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

The American sweetgum grows in acidic, loamy, moist, sandy, well-drained, wet and clay soils. It has moderate drought tolerance.

Features:

- Yields long-stemmed, woody, burr-like fruit that is approximately 11/2" in diameter.
- Needs plenty of space for root development.
- Does not tolerate pollution.
- Has high wildlife value: seeds are eaten by eastern goldfinches, purple finches, sparrows, mourning doves, northern bobwhites and wild turkeys. Small mammals such as chipmunks, red squirrels and gray squirrels also enjoy the fruits and seeds.
- Information adapted from the Arbor Day Foundation. Find More Information here.



CHADWICK ARBORETUM & LEARNING GARDENS

Tree Information

White oak

Quercus alba

The white oak is a large, strong tree. It has a short stocky trunk with massive horizontal limbs. The fall foliage is often quite beautiful and showy.

Sunlight Requirements: Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers a minimum of four hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

It can adapt to a variety of soil textures, but prefers deep, moist, well-drained sites. New transplants should receive plenty of water and mulch.

Wildlife Value:

The acorns are one of the best sources of food for wildlife and are eaten by birds, hoofed browsers and rodents.

Oaks in general are the best pollinator plants there are! In Ohio, oaks support over 477 different species of butterflies and moths – more than any other plant!

Features:

- Can live for centuries.
- Features alternating leaves that are 4–8" long with 3-4 rounded, finger-like lobes on each side and one at the tip. Intervening sinuses sometimes reach almost to the mid-rib.
- Produces long, yellowish-green catkins drooping in clusters in the spring.
- Develops a deep taproot, making it difficult to transplant.
- Is extremely sensitive to soil compaction and grade changes.
- This information adapted from Arbor Day Foundation. Find More information here.

Green Giant Arborvitae

Thuja Plicata

Large evergreen native to the pacific northwest of the United States. They typically reach a height of 50-70 feet with a spread of 15-25 feet and live for hundreds of years.

Mature trees exhibit a narrow to broad pyramidal shape that may develop a buttressed base. Branches may droop somewhat, with upturned ends that create a graceful appearance.

Sunlight Requirements: This species grows in full sun to full shade and prefers consistently moist, well-drained soil. It does not tolerate drought.

Features

- This is a great tree to plant for privacy! Plant trees 5-6 feet apart to establish a privacy hedge or security screen.
- Emits a wonderful fragrance.
- Easy to care for: only needs to be pruned if necessary or desired.
- Very fast growth: This variety is one of the fastest growing conifers.
- This information adapted from North Carolina Extension. Read more here.





