



SEATTLE TREE CARE

POST PLANTING GUIDE

Watering (most important) Ensuring adequate hydration for recently planted trees is imperative, particularly during the summer months. It is recommended to provide 15-20 gallons of water to young trees twice a week, employing a slow application method. This can be achieved using a watering bag, a garden hose set to a gradual trickle for 30 minutes, or three 5-gallon buckets strategically placed at the tree base with perforations made at the bottom. To assess the appropriateness of watering, examining the soil 2 inches beneath the surface is advised; it should exhibit dampness without being excessively dry, crumbly, or saturated.

Pruning of young deciduous trees is advised to establish a robust structural framework and eliminate dead, damaged, diseased, and interlocking branches. This proactive approach diminishes future pruning requirements for mature trees. It is strongly cautioned against employing detrimental pruning practices like topping, and the engagement of a certified arborist is recommended if uncertainties arise. Those undertaking pruning independently can benefit from resources provided by organizations such as UW's Center for Urban Horticulture, Plant Amnesty, Seattle Tilth, and City Fruit, which conduct informative tree pruning workshops. Securing a permit from SDOT is mandatory for pruning street tree branches exceeding 2" in diameter.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US



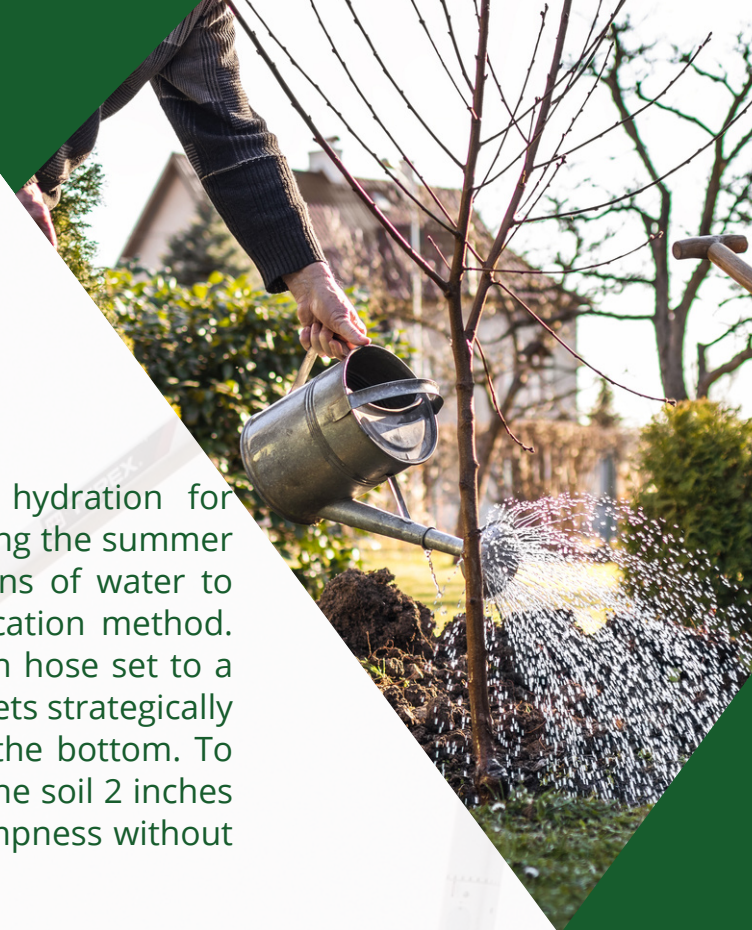
206-789-0534



Arborist@SeattleTreeCare.org



SeattleTreeCare.org





SEATTLE TREE CARE

POST PLANTING GUIDE

Weeding Vigilance against competing vegetation, such as grass, within a minimum radius of 2 feet from the tree trunk is advised. This precaution prevents competition for water and nutrients.

Mulching is a highly beneficial practice for trees, serving to suppress weed growth, conserve water, and shield the trunk from lawnmower damage. Applying a 3-4" thick layer of wood chip mulch in a circular pattern around the tree, with care taken to avoid direct contact with the trunk, is recommended. Fertilization is generally unnecessary for trees, and additional guidance on proper mulching techniques can be obtained from instructional videos.

Staking of a tree is only advocated when essential for maintaining an upright position. Stakes should be carefully positioned to prevent abrasion against the trunk or branches, as this can lead to infections and eventual tree demise. Removal of stakes is advised after 1-2 years, with a simple shake test serving as an indicator of the tree's stability. If the soil remains undisturbed during the shake test, indicating root integration with the surrounding soil, the stakes can be safely removed. Prolonged staking beyond necessity should be avoided, particularly if the trunk surpasses the length of the stakes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US



206-789-0534



Arborist@SeattleTreeCare.org



SeattleTreeCare.org