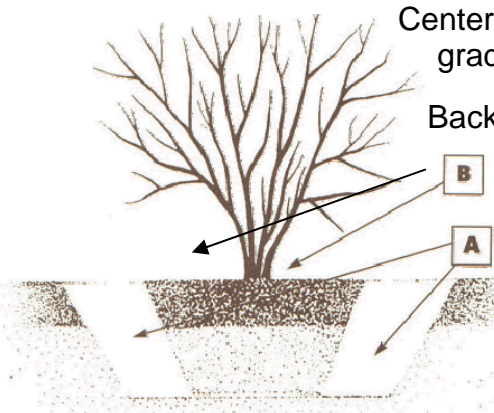


PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS



Remove plant from container. Because the plant was grown in a container, its roots have been restricted. Loosen the roots all the way around the sides and bottom of root ball. If the root system is too tight to loosen with your fingers, cut through the roots, slightly with a knife or pruning shears. Make three or four one-inch deep cuts then gently pull apart.

Dig hole 50% wider and **only as deep** as the root ball. Prepare soil by mixing **1/3 soil, 1/3 peat moss and 1/3 top soil. (A)**



Center the plant in the hole about 1 to 3 inches above grade. Keep the roots spread out.

Backfill with soil mix and pack firmly. Make a saucer of soil around the plant for water retention. **(B)**

(C) Water thoroughly with a slow soaking hose after planting.

We recommend using Fertilome Root Stimulator at this point.

Apply a 2 –3” layer of mulch. Be sure not to mound soil or mulch close to the base of your plant. Soil or mulch mounded at the base of a plant will cause ‘*girdling*’ (*rotting of the bark and trunk*) and will eventually kill your plant. **(C)**

Your new plants should be given a root stimulator type fertilizer right after planting. We recommend **Fertilome Root Stimulator**. Fertilizer meant for mature trees or shrubs could cause damage to your plant. **Fertilome Root Stimulator** actually helps to encourage new root growth, which is essential for new plants to develop a healthy root system. At least four applications according to package directions should be applied before regular fertilizer is used. A tree and shrub fertilizer such as **Fertilome Tree & Shrub Food** may be applied twice each year following the last application of root stimulator.

Special Care Plants Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Dogwoods need well-drained, acidic soils, high in organic matter and a shady location. When planting, mix ½ of the removed soils with ½ peat moss. Applying **Hollytone** in early spring and fall or **Miracid** every 14 days will benefit your plants’ health and improve its’ appearance.

REMEMBER, these plants are shallow rooted. It is very important to mulch them heavily in the fall to protect them from freezing and dieing.