

# TREE POWER PROGRAM

## Planting Your New Hardwood Tree

Proper planting technique and care will help your tree survive and stay healthy. Here are some guidelines to follow when planting.

### Handling your Tree

- Lift your tree by the pot, not by the trunk

### Planting Site

- To reduce home energy costs, plant your tree where it will provide the most shade
- If you are unsure of buried utilities, call before you dig – Ontario One call 1-800-400-2255 or [www.on1call.com](http://www.on1call.com)
- Clear any debris (stumps, rocks, etc.) from planting site
- Avoid planting in wet depressions
- Do NOT plant your tree in the following locations:
  - Under utility wires
  - Over a septic system
  - Close to buildings
  - Within 10 m (30 ft) of boulevard or on City of London property
  - Near sidewalks, driveways, patios and foundations
  - Under the crown of a live tree

### Planting

- Prior to planting, ensure soil within pot is moist
- Dig planting hole 30 cm (12 in) wider in diameter than the root ball (pot)
- Dig hole just deep enough that the soil in the pot is level with the ground and the tree sits on a firm base
- Lower potted tree into hole, checking for depth and fit
- Remove tree from hole, slide off the pot, disturbing the root system as little as possible, and put tree back in hole, leaving bamboo stake in place
- Ensure tree is vertical
- Firm tree in with a mixture of topsoil and compost, tamping with your foot to eliminate air pockets
- Keep bamboo stake in place for one year

### Mulching & Weed Control

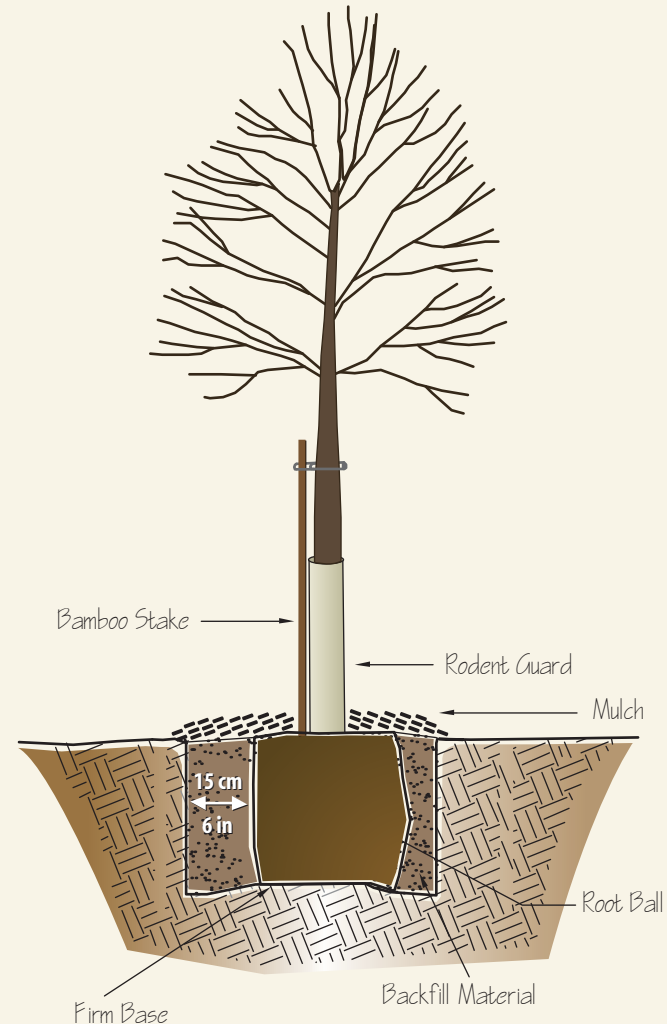
- Mulch with wood chips to a depth of 5-10 cm (2-4 in) to reduce weed competition, retain moisture and reduce fluctuations in soil temperature
- Spread the mulch in a circle around the tree, keeping it away from the trunk to avoid stem rot
- Do not use string grass/weed trimmers around any trees, regardless of size

### Rodent Protection

- Place rodent guard around stem to protect it from mice and rabbits during winter

### Watering

- Ensure trees are thoroughly watered at planting
- In times of drought, water thoroughly once a week



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