

Congratulations – you are the proud owner of a new tree!

Top Four Ways to care for your new tree.

1. Water
2. Water
3. Water
4. Weed & Mulch



New trees need to be watered over the next 3 years. That's right...3 years. During the first couple growing seasons, your newly planted tree is expending a lot of energy trying to get its roots established in the soil.

Especially during the first few summers of your new trees life, it will have a difficult time dealing with heat and drought as it is depending on the original soil/root ball that it was planted to support the entire tree until roots start spreading out into the surrounding soil.

Consider that on a single windy, 95-degree day in July, the leaves on a reasonably healthy, transplanted tree the size of yours may transpire (sweat) 2 or 3 gallons of water. Given the limited root growth outside the soil ball it was originally planted in, a new tree can suffer severe drought stress in just a few days.

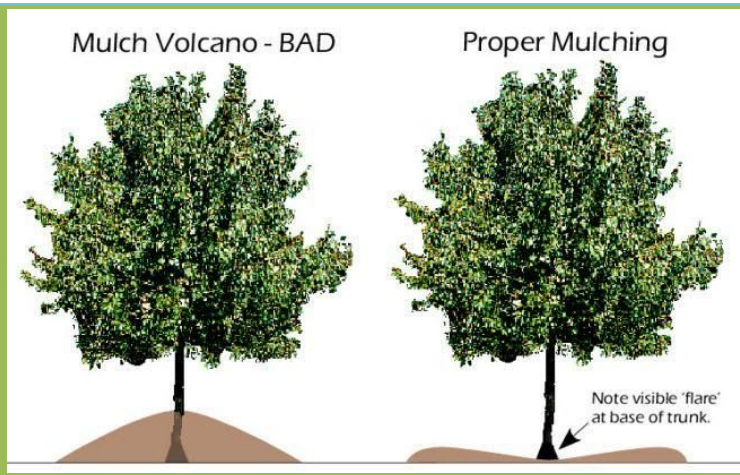
WATERING SCHEDULE

- *Installation Date: Oct 19, 2019.* Tree was watered thoroughly by team at installation.
- *Remainder of October 2019:* Water twice a week unless it is raining.
- *Nov 2019:* If it is warm and not raining, water once every week or so. If it is consistently cold and rainy, no watering is likely needed.
- *Dec 2019-Mar 2020:* No watering likely needed unless weather warms.
- *April-May 2020:* A once a week deep watering during April and May will get your new tree off to a good start for its first full season. If it pours down rain these months, no watering is necessary. If it gets warm earlier, ramp up watering earlier.
- ***Jun–Aug 2020: Once a week deep watering is critical.***
- *Sept-Nov 2020:* Cut down watering as the temperatures cool to once every two weeks.
- *Dec/Jan/Feb 2021:* No watering likely needed.
- *2021 & 2022 Growing Seasons:* Water 1-2x/month deeply throughout the growing seasons.

HOW MUCH WATER /HOW TO WATER? Deep watering is the key. We are fortunate in this neighborhood to have sandy soil, so it will be hard to overwater. The easiest way to achieve deep watering is to set up a system where water can slowly drip into the rootball (vs. run off). This can be done in a number of ways:

1. Water by hand with hose at a trickle. Set hose on trickle and leave it sitting on the rootball for an hour.
2. Buckets. Get a 5 gallon bucket, punch one or more small holes (1/8 inch diameter) in the side near the bottom. Simply fill the bucket and set it at the base of the tree so it drips onto the original root ball. Let it leak slowly.
3. Store-Bought slow/deep watering tools like Tregator® bags can be filled and let drip.

MULCH AND WEED Mulch helps keep the moisture in which is very important. It can also provide a buffer between the trunk and damaging lawn mowers. Mulch 2-3" at the base of the tree but don't pile mulch against the trunk - just say no to mulch volcanoes! They can cause rot and damage at the base of the tree and invite disease and other pests to damage the tree.



PRUNING Although you will not need to prune your tree for many years to come it's important that you understand that there are tree practices to avoid. Don't top trees. In doing so you put it into a state of shock, you deprive the tree of its food source, you open pathways and invite disease, insects, and rot thus weakening the tree. You actually make the tree more dangerous because its new branches are weak and likely to fall. If a landscaper tells you topping a tree is ok you should **find someone else to prune your tree – preferably an arborist.**

Note that these trees are not under warrantee. We have been able to acquire these trees at a wholesale rate which does not include any warrantees. Questions? If any questions, send note to trees@eastrowgardenclub.org. To learn the basics of tree care go to <http://arborday.org/trees/tips>.