

HOW TO PLANT A POTTED TREE / SHRUB / PERENNIAL

1. Dig planting hole so top of root ball will be 1"-2" above surrounding soil when planting is complete. Diameter of planting hole should be at least a foot larger than root ball diameter.
2. Remove plant from container. Using a knife, score vertically down the root ball 4 or 5 times about 1" deep. Loosen circling, matted roots so they will grow into surrounding soil mix and set plant in hole.
3. Amend backfill soil with equal parts existing soil and soil conditioner thoroughly mixed. **Stauffers Planting Mix is the recommended soil conditioner.**
4. Fill hole 2/3 with backfill soil mix, pressing and tapping lightly to hold plant firmly in place. Finish filling hole, making sure top of root ball is 1"-2" above surrounding soil level when planting is complete.
5. Water root ball and surrounding soil thoroughly to settle soil and remove air pockets. (Successive watering should be applied only when soil feels dry about 2" down into root zone.)
6. Add nutrients using a **water-soluble plant starter**, by pouring mixture directly onto root zone.
7. Mulch 1"-2" deep with bark mulch.

