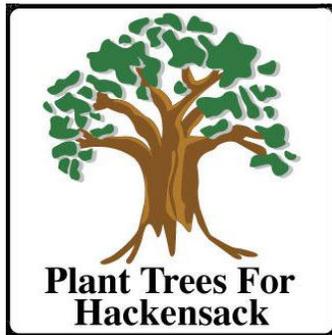




City of Hackensack Shade Tree Advisory Committee



The **Hackensack Shade Tree Advisory Committee** was formed in 1989. The goal of the committee is to beautify the community with curbside tree plantings. To date the committee has been involved in the planting of over 500 trees through out the city. This city has been honored as a Tree City USA participant for 15 years. Each year there is an Arbor Day Celebration planting a tree and marking it with a plaque on public property. The Committee seeks Federal, State, and Local grants to defray the cost of these plantings. Community volunteers as always needed to update our tree survey of the city. The Shade Tree Committee meets in the lower level of the City Hall Building on a regular basis. Visit our web site at www.Hackensack.org for more details.

Any Hackensack resident requesting tree plantings at their curbside should request it in writing with an easy diagram showing the location for the trees on their property. Please mail to "Shade Tree Advisory Committee, 65 Central Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601".
Check the Hackensack website for a form to use.

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State Dig Safety One-Call Contact Information Directory

State Dig Safety one-call centers are designed to protect underground utilities, as well as excavators, by notifying all area utilities when a proposed excavation is going to happen. Please call the service in your state before you decide where to plant your trees.
digsafely.com
1-888-258-0808

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How to Plant a Containerized Tree

If a tree is planted correctly, it will grow twice as fast and live at least twice as long as one that is incorrectly planted.

Ideally, dig or roto-till an area one foot deep and approximately 5 times the diameter of the root ball. The prepared soil will encourage root growth beyond the root ball and results in a healthier tree.

In transplanting, be sure to keep soil around the roots. Always handle your tree by the ball, not

by the trunk or branches. Don't let the root ball dry out. Help prevent root girdling by vertically cutting any roots that show tendencies to circle the root ball.

After placing the tree, pack soil firmly but not tightly around the root ball. Water the soil and place a protective 3-foot circle of mulch around the tree.

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How to Plant A Bare-Root Tree

It is best to plant bare-root trees immediately, in order to keep the fragile roots from drying out. If you can't plant because of weather or soil conditions, store the trees in a cool place and keep the roots moist.



1: Unpack tree and soak in water 3 to 6 hours. Do not plant with packing

materials attached to roots, and do not allow roots to dry out.



2: Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crowding. Remove any grass within a three-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter.



3: Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, without

crowding the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments.



4: Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly, but not tightly packed with your heel. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water.

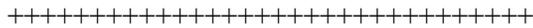


5: After the water has soaked in, place a 2-inch deep protective mulch area



6: Water the tree generously every week or 10 days during the first year.

3 feet in diameter around the base of the tree (but not touching the trunk).



The Value of Mulch



A tree's best friend, mulch insulates soil, retains moisture, keeps out weeds, prevents soil compaction, reduces lawnmower damage, and adds an aesthetic touch to a yard or street. Remove any grass within the mulch area, and area from 3 to 10 feet in diameter, depending on tree size. Pour wood chips or bark pieces 2 to 4 inches within the circle, but not touching the trunk.

Don't Top Trees!

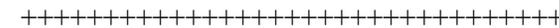


Never cut main branches back to stubs. Many people mistakenly “top” trees because they grow into utility wires, interfere with views or sunlight, or simply grow so large that they worry the landowner.

Unfortunately, the topping process is often self-defeating. Ugly, bushy, weakly attached limbs usually grow back higher than the original branches.

Proper pruning can remove excessive growth without the problems topping creates. In addition, many arborists say that topping is the worst thing you can do for the health of a tree. It starves the tree by drastically reducing its food-making ability and makes the tree more susceptible to insects and disease.

The appearance of a properly pruned tree is like a good haircut: hardly noticeable at first glance.



Use The 1/3 and 1/4 Rules of Pruning

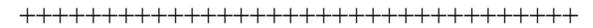
Never remove more than 1/4 of a tree's crown in a season. Where possible, try to encourage side branches that form angles that are 1/3 off vertical (10 o'clock or 2 o'clock positions).

For most species, the tree should have a single trunk.

Ideally, main side branches should be at least 1/3 smaller than the diameter of the trunk.

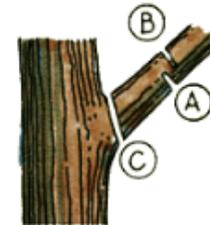
If removal of a main branch is necessary, cut it back to where it is attached to another large branch or the trunk. Do not truncate or leave a stub.

For most deciduous (broadleaf) trees, don't prune up from the bottom any more than 1/3 of the tree's total height.



How to Make a Pruning Cut

Large Limbs:



A: Make a partial cut from beneath.
B: Make a second cut from above several inches out and allow the limb to fall.
C: Complete the job with a final cut just outside the branch collar.

Small Branches:

Make a sharp clean cut, just beyond a lateral bud or other branch.

