

# Helpful Tips



## WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- Plants
- Soil conditioner – Coast of Maine Penobscot Blend Complete Planting Mix
- Pro Gro Natural Fertilizer
- Coast of ME Dark Harbor mulch or equivalent
- Shovel, knife, wheelbarrow, tarp or bucket
- Water Source

## TIPS FOR PLANT SELECTION:

### How much sun/shade do I get?

Full sun is 6+ hours of sun. Shade is 4 hours or less of sun. Between 4 and 6 hours of sun would be considered part sun/shade.

### Soil conditions:

Always plant in well drained soil. To test for soil drainage, dig a hole for your new plant and fill it with water. If water doesn't drain in 12 hours, the soil will need to be amended dramatically to help with drainage. There are plants that can tolerate seasonal standing water. Please speak with someone in our nursery department about plants for the environment and soil conditions.

### Can I water it?

Make sure you can get a hose or watering can to the planted area.

### Do deer come into my yard?

Consider plants that are deer resistant, or ask advice on protecting your plants from deer damage.

### Plant selection Lists:

We offer plant lists for different cultural and environmental conditions that may apply to your garden. Please visit our website for plant selection lists.



## DELIVERY & INSTALLATION SERVICES

Tree installation and Driveway Drop-off services are available for materials purchased at Wentworth Greenhouses.

Please see our website or email [info@wentworthgreenhouses.com](mailto:info@wentworthgreenhouses.com) for complete pricing details.

## OUR GUARANTEE

Our primary goal at Wentworth Greenhouses is the complete satisfaction of all gardeners who choose us for their plant purchases. We strive to offer premium quality plants that are healthy and vigorous when they are purchased. Please call for advice as soon as possible if your plant begins to look unhealthy. Many serious problems can be solved if caught early.

All trees and shrubs are guaranteed for 1 year from date of purchase, provided they are planted in the ground and reasonable care has been given. Perennials and roses are guaranteed through November 1 of the year purchased. Replacement plants are not guaranteed. **Receipt of purchase must accompany request for replacement.**

Wentworth Greenhouses reserves the right to refuse credit due to obvious neglect, such as lack of water, improper care, animal damage, or extreme weather events.

See our website for complete guarantee details. [wentworthgreenhouses.com](http://wentworthgreenhouses.com)



# YOUR GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL PLANTING



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# Planting Trees, Shrubs & Perennials

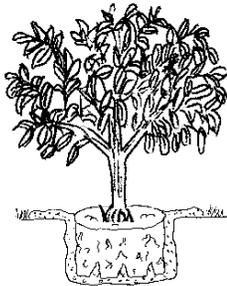


## PREPARING TO PLANT

When planning your garden or new tree installation, call DigSafe first (Dial 811). Even small, shallow jobs are a risk if you don't know where utilities are buried. See [digsafe.com](http://digsafe.com) for more info. Layout and space plants according to the recommendations on the tag. Allow room for future growth of plants. Dig your hole 2-3 times as wide and approximately the same depth as the plant's root mass or container. The top of the root ball should be level with the surface of the ground, or be slightly raised. We recommend mixing **Coast of Maine Penobscot Blend** into the excavated soil at a 70% soil/30% Penobscot Blend ratio. You can mix the soils in a wheelbarrow or on a tarp.

## PLANTING

Remove plant from pot\*\* and break up the bottom 3rd of the root ball; this is to loosen the roots up so don't be afraid to be a little rough. Carefully use a knife or pruners to cut roots, if they are circling the root mass. Place plant in hole and back fill with your 70/30 soil mix and a generous handful of **North Country Organics Pro Gro 5-3-4**. Bring soil up to the top of the root ball being mindful not to pile on too much soil. Tamp backfilled soil lightly and slowly water, to settle any air pockets out. Use any extra soil to create a circular berm surrounding the new plant. The diameter of the berm should be created according to the size of the plant. Approximately 18" diameter for perennials, 3' for shrubs, and 4' for trees.



*\*\*Some plants come "B&B", balled and burlapped. In this case, place the plant in the hole, untie and pull back the burlap and any metal around the crown or base of the plant. Do not remove the burlap or any metal that may be holding the root ball together. The burlap will dissolve over time. There is no reason to "break up" a B&B root ball as it should not be rootbound.*

## MULCHING

Mulch the new plants with **Coast of Maine Dark Harbor** or the equivalent shredded bark mulch at a depth of 2-3". This will prevent water loss and keep mowers and trimmers from getting too close to the plant. Avoid overly deep mulch up against the trunk or crown of the new plants, as this can promote disease and cause rotting of the plant.

## WATERING

Proper watering is critical to the health and success of any newly installed plants. Improper watering is the #1 cause of death for these newly installed plants. Container grown plants tend to dry out quicker than the soil around them, so it is crucial to monitor soil moisture, directly surrounding new plants. Weather conditions will also affect watering frequency. Sunny and breezy weather will dry the soil out quicker than rainy and cool weather. When watering is required, thoroughly soak the plants root system as well as the surrounding soil, by allowing a hose to run slowly for up to 20 minutes in the bermed area surrounding the plant. This may be necessary once or twice a week, depending on weather conditions and season. Lawn and automatic drip irrigation systems do not emit enough water to properly care for newly installed plant material, so do not rely on them. Watering is best performed during the early morning or late afternoon, as moisture on the foliage at night can cause foliar and disease problems with plants.

### General Watering Guidelines:

- 1 gal. Pot: Trickle water for approx. 3-4 minutes
- 2 gal. Pot: Trickle water for approx. 4-5 minutes
- 3 gal. Pot: Trickle water for approx. 6-8 minutes
- 4 gal.-7 gal. Pot: Trickle water for approx. 10-12 minutes
- 10gal.-25 gal. Pot: Trickle water for approx.. 20-30 minutes
- B&B: Trickle water for approx. 20-30 minutes minutes

*Remember, if it rains for 1 hour, it probably was not enough water for a newly planted shrub or tree.*

## STAKING

Typically, newly planted trees are not staked as the plants root more quickly when the plant moves around a bit. If you feel staking is necessary (such as a tree form in a very windy location), ask a team member for advice.

## FERTILIZATION

We recommend using **North Country Organics Pro Gro 5-3-4** for ongoing bed fertilization. Every three months after planting, or in the spring after a fall planting, apply 2-3 lbs per 100 SF, or approximately 1 cup per 10 gallon tree. 100 SF is an area 10 feet long by 10 feet wide, or a border 20 feet long and only 5 feet wide. Sprinkle the fertilizer in the drip zone (under the plants leaf canopy), and scratch it into the soil. Remember you are actually adding the nutrients to the soil, not the plants individually. It is the soil and the soil organisms that activate the nutrients and make them plant accessible.

## PRODUCT RECOMMENDATIONS



**North Country Organics Pro Gro 5-3-4**



**Coast of Maine Penobscot Blend**



**Coast of Maine Dark Harbor**

