

# Bare Root Tree Program

## How to Plant and Care for Your Tree



*“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Town of Carleton Place**

**Jim McCready**

**Forester/Certified Arborist**

**Chair of Urban Forest River Corridor Committee**



# **Thank you for purchasing your bare root tree!**

**Trees make our world beautiful and provide us with many obvious benefits - shade, privacy, increased property values, shelter and food for birds and other small creatures, and even a place for childhood tree houses and great memories.**

**Besides these obvious benefits, trees also contribute to the health of our planet. They clean the air by giving off oxygen, store carbon, and recycle moisture into the atmosphere. Trees also help prevent soil erosion, modify temperatures, and act as windbreaks.**

**Planting trees is not only a nice thing to do - it's one way each of us can help improve the environment. Tree planting is not difficult if you remember to follow these simple steps and "keep the green side up!"**



# Presentation

## 1. How to Plant Your Tree

- Plan
- Prepare the Spot
- Minimize Stress to the Tree
- Planting
- Staking
- Mulching

## 2. Taking Care of Your Tree

- Watering
- Fertilizing
- Pruning

## 3. Where & When to Get Your Tree

## 4. Questions

# CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Before you dig, contact OntarioOneCall to have underground utilities located and marked



**NO MATTER  
HOW BIG,  
CALL OR  
CLICK  
BEFORE YOU  
DIG**

**1-800-400-2255  
OntarioOneCall.ca**



**IMPORTANT**



# Step 1 - Plan Ahead

Trees should be planted in the dormant seasons spring and fall

- What will the tree look like when full grown?
  - How tall will it be?
  - What shape will it have?
- Be conscious of scale; large trees can overpower a small property
- Don't plant tall trees near overhead utility lines
- Dig the hole before you pick up your tree



# Step 1 - Plan Ahead

## Recommended distance from hydro lines

Small Trees (under 7m)	2m (6.5ft)
Medium Trees (7-18m)	6m (20ft)
Large Trees (over 18m)	12m (40ft)

## Recommended distance from house

Small Trees (under 7m)	3m (10ft)
Medium Trees (7-18m)	4m (13ft)
Large Trees (over 18m)	5m (16ft)





# Step 2 - Prepare the Planting Spot

- Prepare before getting the tree
- Remove grass, weeds, ground cover within a 50cm radius of planting hole
- Dig hole at least twice the size of tree roots & to a depth that the tree was planted in the nursery
- Roughen sides of the hole to allow root penetration & growth



# Step 3 - Minimize Stress

- **Protect the tree during transport**
  - You will be planting Bareroot trees
  - Must keep the roots moist at all times until planted
  - Use wet burlap, mulch, wet leaves, moss or wood chips
  - Others not in the program most likely will be planting container stock
- **Be careful not to damage branches during transportation**





# Step 4 - Prepare For Root Growth

- Plant the tree as soon as you get home
- Straighten roots to prevent doubling under, crowding & crossing
- Don't expose roots to direct sunlight or drying winds for more than a minute to avoid damaging the fine root hairs



# Step 5 - Plant Your Tree

- Place root crown on the mound you created & allow the roots to spread over & down the sides
- Gently pack soil around roots until hole is 2/3 full.
- Use the parent soil you removed to plant the tree
- Stomp on the soil to remove the air pocket
- Fill remaining space with water & allow soil to settle & the hole to drain
- Finish filling the hole with soil & create a ridge of soil around the tree



# Step 6 - Staking Your Tree

- Studies have shown that trees establish more quickly and develop stronger trunks and root systems if they are not staked
- Planting bareroot stock requires staking; -windy, shallow soil
- One or two stakes with flexible tie material will hold tree upright and minimize damage to the trunk and still allow movement
- Remove stakes after first year of growth

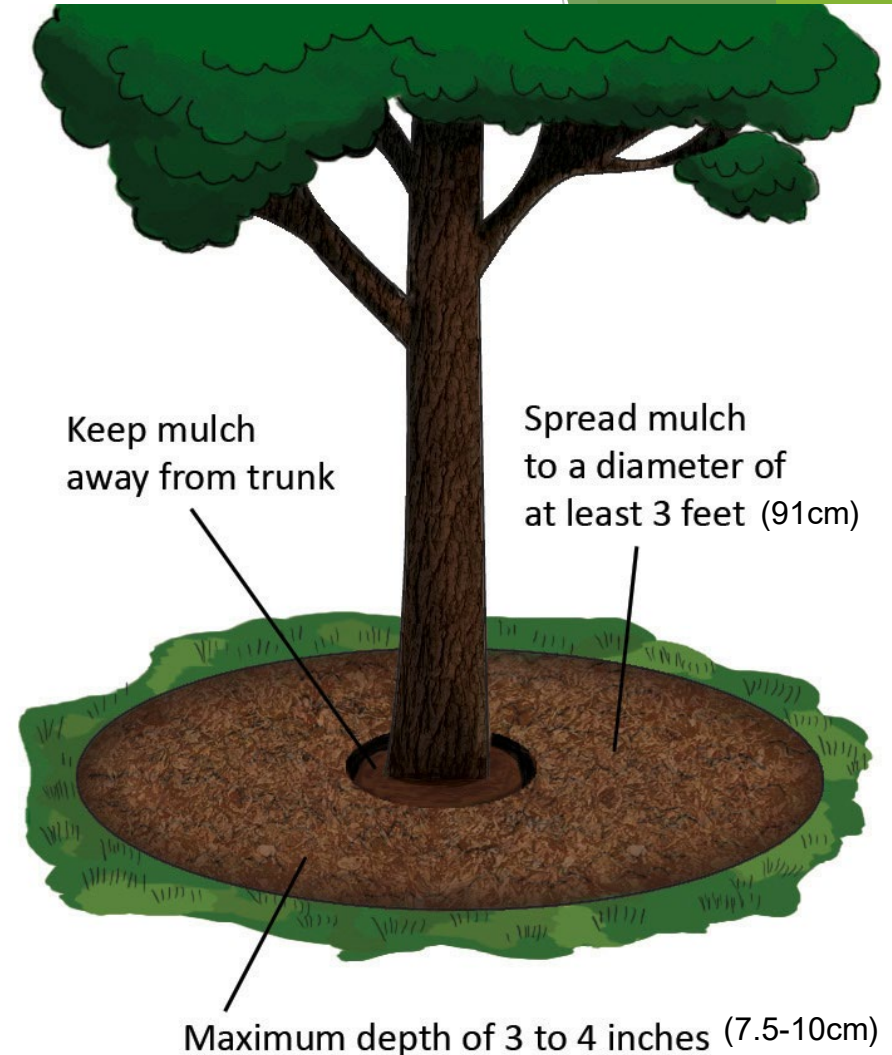




# Step 7 - Mulching

One of the best things to do for your tree. Mulch is organic matter spread around the base of the tree

- Helps hold moisture, moderate soil temperature extremes, reduce weed competition
- Common mulches are leaf litter, wood chips, shredded bark and peat moss
- Keeps the whipper-snipper away
- **Don't Volcano**





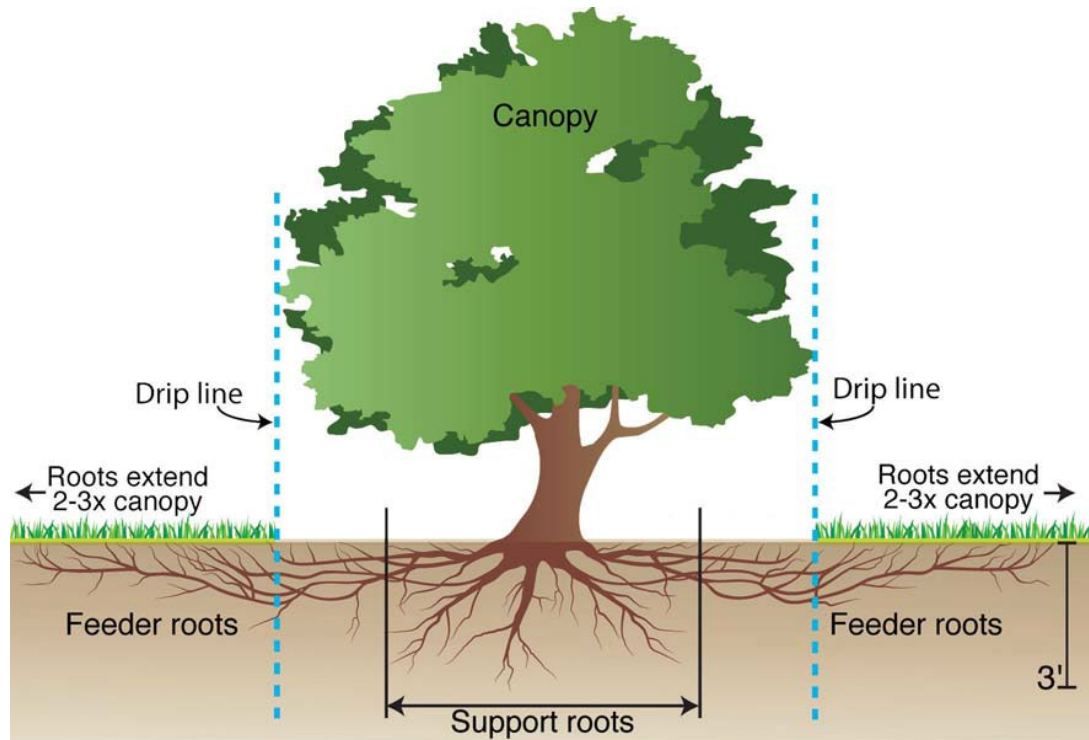
# Maintenance-Watering

- Watering your lawn does not water your tree
- You want the roots to grow down and not be on the surface, it would be more vulnerable to drought
- Infrequent deep soakings encourages production of a deeper root system
- Take nozzle off the hose and allow to trickle for 2 hours
- Water once a week, barring rain and more often during hot spells.
- Continue until mid fall



# Maintenance-Fertilizing

- Should not fertilize the first year as ineffective until the roots get established- You can apply bone meal
- In years after planting apply a slow release nitrogen
- Fast acting fertilizer is best applied in the spring so that new growth is stimulated
- Good option is use fertilizer stakes

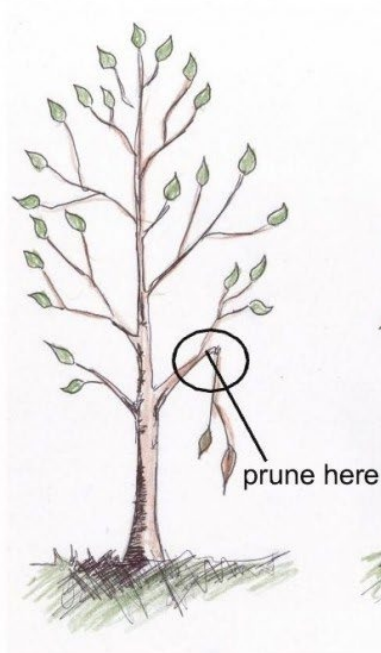


# Maintenance - Pruning

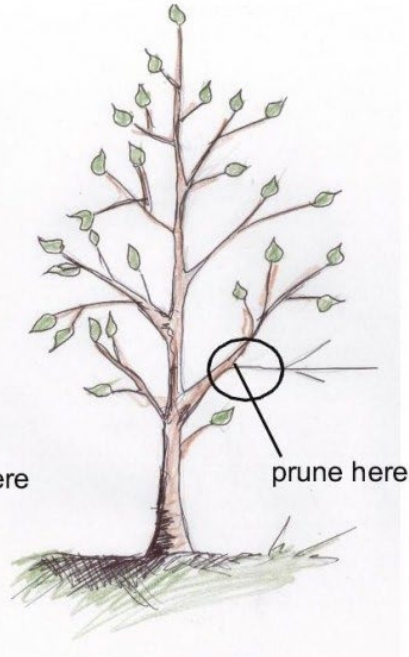
Prune at planting - improves branch spacing and promote a strong structure

- Annual pruning - start when the tree is young
- Deciduous trees should be pruned when dormant (late fall or early spring (exceptions are birch and maple - prune these when leaves are fully grown))

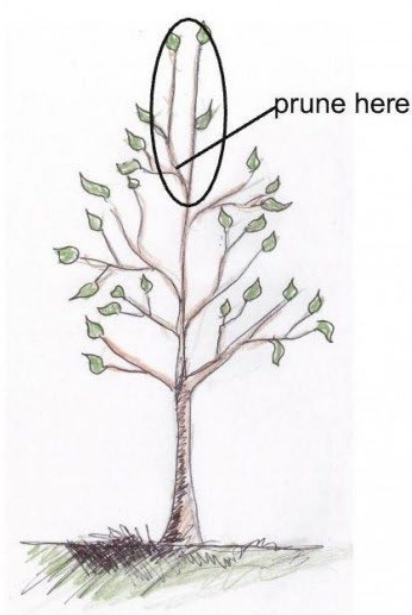
Broken Limbs



Dead Limbs

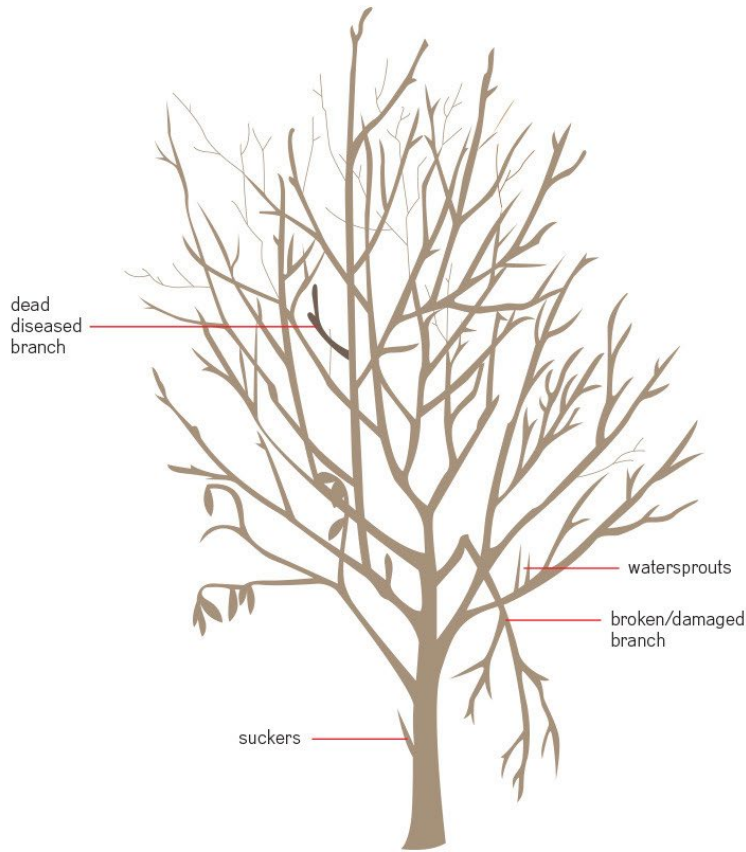


Two Leaders



# Taking Care of Your Tree - Pruning (cont'd)

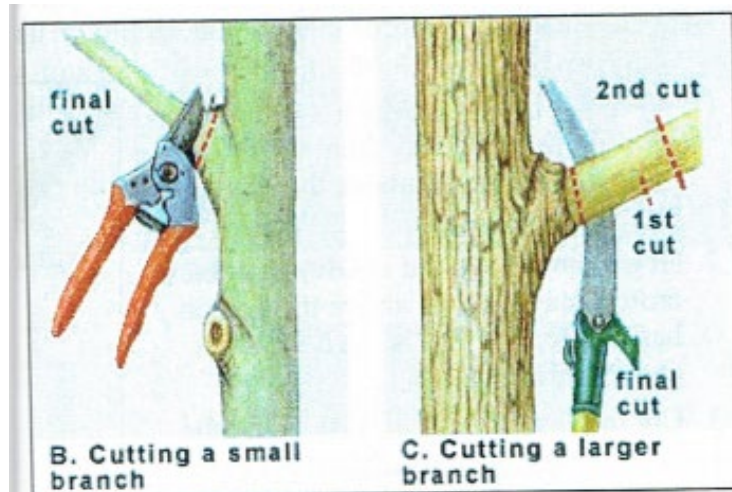
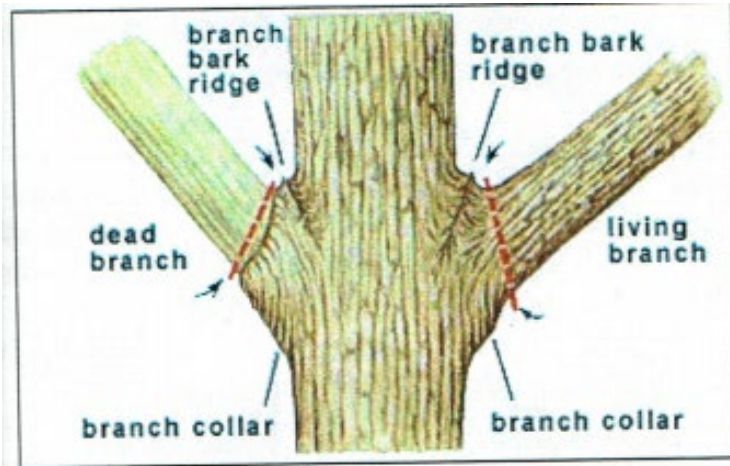
- Remove dead, damaged, diseased, weak & thin or rubbing branches
- Remove water sprouts from the trunk & main branches & suckers from the trunk base or roots.





# Pruning Method

# Tree Wrapping



# Where to Get Your Tree

- You get your tree from the Carleton Place Nursery, 7164 County Road 29.
- Residents must present their vouchers at payment!!
- Payment must be made prior to picking the tree up
  - Pay at the Carleton Place Town Hall (175 Bridge St). The Town Hall hours are:
    - Monday: 8:00am - 4:30pm
    - Tuesday: 8:00am - 6:00pm
    - Wednesday: 8:00am - 4:30pm
    - Thursday: 8:00am - 4:30pm
    - Friday: 8:00am - 12:00pm
- Trees must be picked up by **May 24<sup>th</sup>**, 2024



**NO REFUNDS - ONCE YOU  
HAVE COLLECTED THE TREE  
FROM THE NURSERY THE  
TOWN WILL NOT PROVIDE  
ANY REFUNDS OR  
EXCHANGES.**



**IF YOU DO NOT COLLECT  
YOUR TREE BY THE  
DEADLINE PROVIDED, THE  
TOWN WILL CONSIDER  
YOUR TREE A DONATION  
AND PLANT IT WITHIN THE  
COMMUNITY.**



# Questions

Questions





# Contact Information

- If you have any additional questions, feel free to reach out to any of the following:

Jim McCready

Certified Arborist/Registered Forester

[jdmccready@rogers.com](mailto:jdmccready@rogers.com)

Mark Hinton

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[mhinton@carletonplace.ca](mailto:mhinton@carletonplace.ca)

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