



CARING FOR YOUR EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS TREES

We wish you years of enjoyment with them, and to this end we have prepared a list of important practices to be observed to get the best growth and health from your trees.

WATERING:

1. Water trees every other day for the first 2 weeks after installation, supplying them with 3-5 gallons at each watering, depending on the size of the tree.
2. Thereafter, check and water the tree(s) 2-3 times a week for the remainder of the first growing season, more/less frequently in cases of rainy weather or severe drought.
3. Pay special attention to smaller, container grown trees. Soils in containers sometimes vary greatly from the soil now surrounding your tree, may drain more quickly, and dry out sooner than trees planted 'balled and burlapped'.

FEEDING:

1. Feed your trees at least once a year, in the spring, but preferably twice a year, in the spring and late fall.
2. Evergreens appreciate a highly acidic fertilizer such as *Holly Tone*, a slow-release organic blend. Shade trees prefer a higher nitrogen fertilizer like *Tree Tone*, an organic, slow-release blend that promotes full leaf growth. Flowering and fruit trees prefer slow-release organic fertilizers such *Tree Tone*.
3. Follow package directions for application rates, and don't over feed, as too much fertilizer may burn the roots of the plants.
4. Be sure you apply the fertilizer to the soil, not to the mulch. Move the mulch aside, apply fertilizer, and then replace the mulch.

TREES GUIDES:

Braces or guy wires are installed for the first year. This is to help tilting or loosening due to wind, until the root system becomes established and securely anchored. Remember to remove guy wires and unwrap paper trunk wrap after one year to allow unhampered growth.

PRUNING:

Some trees need periodic pruning to maintain their shape and vigor. There are too many variables to cover all the possibilities, but fruit trees and trees planted close to buildings or other

permanent structures may need pruning. Please contact the nursery for the correct time and methods of pruning your particular trees.

WINTER PROTECTION:

1. Install plastic mouse guards on the trunk of fruit trees to prevent chewing damage over the winter.
2. To prevent drying in winter winds, spray an anti-desiccant such as *Wilt-Pruf* on needled evergreens such as hemlock, firs and spruces. Spray as late in the fall as possible, and again in the 'January thaw' if temperatures rise to 40 degrees. The months of February and March are often the toughest for wind. The anti-desiccant will wear off by itself in the spring.
3. Wrap burlap around hemlocks, arborvitaes and other deer susceptible trees to prevent "deer pruning" in the winter months.

Following these simple procedures will help keep your trees in top condition for years of continued enjoyment. Please feel free to call us with any questions. 802-325-3007. Thanks for choosing Mettowee Mill Garden Center & Landscaping for your landscaping and gardening needs.