



## Trees and Shrubs

---

At Culver's, we strive to offer the best quality plant material to you. We also understand that it is important that you know what you are purchasing and how to care for it. We hope that you will take advantage of the services we offer and the knowledge of our staff to help you choose the right plants for your home or business.

### Planting

After you have carefully chosen the right plants for your environment it is important that they have the proper care from the beginning.

First, always move the plant by the root mass and not by the foliage so you do not damage the plant.

Always dig the hole at least twice the width of the root ball.

For **plants in containers**, remove the container and gently massage the roots, make several vertical cut in the root mass to stop the roots from growing in circles.

For **balled and burlapped plants**, place the plant in the hole so that one third of the ball is above grade. Remove the top of the burlap and twine from the base of the trunk

to prevent wicking. If there is a wire basket, only remove the top half, the rest will biodegrade. Back fill with crumbled soil, but do not go over the existing root ball.

To help with the intake of moisture and root development, add mycorrhizal fungus to the top few inches of soil. **Mycor** is a beneficial fungus that was found in our original soils, but has been depleted through tilling and building. There is **no need to fertilize** new plants in the first year.

Add 2-4 inches of wood mulch and **water** slowly and thoroughly.

### Watering

Here it is again! We just can't stress enough how important this is. Most plants need to be thoroughly watered once a week during the growing season and dry periods that follow. *Even in the winter months!* If they are not receiving enough water, the lower leaves will begin to turn yellow. If they are over watered, the upper leaves will begin to wilt.

Too much, too little, they can both be damaging so water thoroughly and regularly and keep your eye on the green!

## Perennials

---

Perennials are the cherry on top. When used correctly, they can bring splashes of color and interest to new or existing landscapes. They can be planted any time during the growing season and the real joy is their loyal return every spring.

Most perennials prefer well drained soils, so work the soil with organic matter will give them a chance to perform their best. If you have access to a tiller, it is the fastest and easiest way to loosen the soil, but not necessary.

Dig the planting hole wide enough to allow the roots to spread out, but no deeper than the existing depth of the plant as it is in the pot. Remove the plant carefully from the pot and loosen the root and soil.

If you have properly amended the soil, fertilizer is not required. However, we like to use a balanced slow released fertilizer to give an extra boost and better bloom. We also recommend **Mycor** for perennials, which is often sold as Flower Saver.

### Caring for new Sod

- New sod should be watered every day for the first two weeks.
- During hot, dry periods, sod should be watered twice each day for at least 30 minutes.
- After two weeks or when sod attaches to the soil, slowing start to cut back watering.
- If you do not have an automatic irrigation system, you may need to increase watering during dry spells.
- Do not apply weed control chemicals during the first year.
- **Grass seed** should be kept *constantly* moist for at least two weeks.