



# WHY PLANT TREES?

## THEY'RE GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITIES.

- Trees filter pollutants out of our drinking water and clean the air we breathe.
- Trees shade our homes, businesses, streets, and sidewalks, cooling the areas around them by up to 10 degrees.
- Tree canopies serve as a sound barrier, reducing traffic noise in urban areas by 40-50%.
- Tree roots help secure soil, preventing erosion and lessening the impact of flooding.
- Spending time in tree-filled areas helps us improve our mental and physical health.

## THEY'RE GOOD FOR WILDLIFE.

Animals of all kinds — including birds, squirrels, deer, butterflies, and bees — rely on trees for food and shelter.

## THEY'RE GOOD FOR YOUR WALLET.

Trees shield homes and buildings from the elements, significantly reducing energy costs. Homes and buildings with trees also have higher property values than those without.



SEE ALL  
A TREE  
CAN BE

# TREE PLANTING 101



## Call 811 Before You Dig

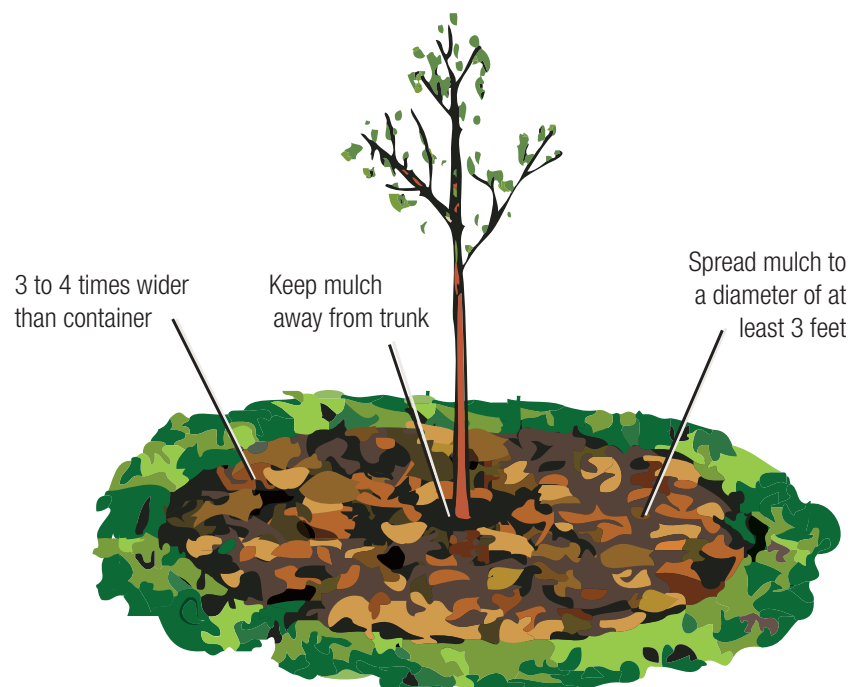
811 is a national number that will help you avoid hitting buried utility lines in your landscape. If you do have hidden utility lines, workers will visit your home free of charge to outline the areas you need to avoid.

## Watch for Utility Lines

If there are utility lines above the spot you want to plant your tree, consider another location in your yard. A good rule of thumb is to plant 20-50 feet away from any overhead lines, depending on the mature height of your tree.

## PLANTING YOUR TREE

- 1 Dig a hole 3 to 4 times wider than the tree's container. The sides should be sloped like a saucer.
- 2 Carefully remove the tree from the container, keeping the soil around the roots intact.
- 3 Set the tree in the middle of the hole. Make sure the base of the trunk is slightly above ground level. Then, firmly pack the hole with the soil you dug up, making sure there aren't any air pockets.
- 4 Water the soil around your tree. After the water has soaked in, spread mulch 2-4 inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree. Make sure to leave space between the mulch and the trunk.



Visit [arborday.org](http://arborday.org) for more care and planting tips.