

# PLANTING A CONTAINER TREE

1. Find the root flare. Remove excess soil to expose the root flare.
2. Dig a **wide** and **shallow** hole. **Width:** Create a level planting surface. Hole should be 3x the width of the root ball. **Depth:** The root flare should be planted at or slightly above ground level.
3. Prune off any circling roots by shaving 1 inch off of the root ball. Correct and remove any roots circling around the trunk.
4. Backfill with original soil to 2/3 full. In the top 1/3 section, mix in 10% - 20% of soil amendment, topsoil and organic material. Water around the root ball to settle the soil.
5. Mulch wide, to the dripline if possible. Keep mulch away from the trunk. Mulch should be 2" - 4" deep. Create a berm to catch rain water. Deconstruct the berm after one year.
6. Remove all tags and nursery stakes. Stake the tree if necessary. Use stakes and a flexible material like arbotie. Remove staking after one year.
7. Water in the tree at the time of planting. Water regularly for the first 2 years. See watering guidelines.



## THE 811 PROCESS

Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

### STEP 1

Call 811 or submit a ticket online at [www.sc811.com](http://www.sc811.com)

### STEP 2

Wait 3 full business days (excluding weekends and holidays) for utility operators to respond

### STEP 3

Confirm that utility operators have responded

### STEP 4

Dig carefully and respect the marks