

ROHSLER'S PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

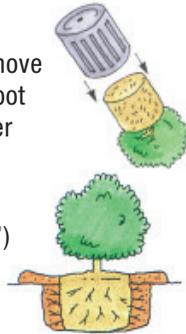
In general, the planting hole should be dug 2 times as wide, but no deeper than the size of the root ball or containerized plant to be planted. We recommend soils be amended with Frey Brothers Planting Mix, a rich organic compost for trees and shrubs as well as Espoma organic Bio-tone Starter Plus starter Plant Food. Mix 1/3 Frey Brothers Planting Mix with 2/3 of the soil that was removed when digging the hole and Bio-tone Starter Plus at the manufacturer's recommended rate. Place the amended backfill around the sides of the root ball while applying **BONIDE® Root & Grow®** Root Stimulator and Plant Starter over the roots. Care should be taken not to dig the planting hole too deep, or excess settling may occur. As a general rule, it is better to plant the soil ball slightly higher than too deep. In heavy clay soils, aged pine bark fines such as Enrich Soil Conditioner can also be added to the backfill. Pine bark fines aid in breaking up clumps of clay and compacted soils, improving water and air penetration to plant roots. Incorporate 20-30% Enrich Soil Conditioner to the above amended backfill thoroughly before placing around sides of root ball.

CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

For container grown plants, gently remove the container from the root ball (cutting the container may be necessary with pot-bound plants).



Gently rough up ("tease") pot-bound roots away from soil ball.



Place the root ball in the planting hole so the top of the root ball is slightly higher than surrounding soil to allow for natural settling and an additional 2-3" of mulch top dress.



Water in the plant with **BONIDE® Root & Grow®**. Follow the manufacturer's directions and thoroughly soak the roots. Apply a layer of mulch.

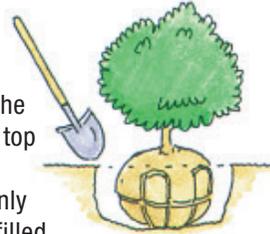
BONIDE® Root & Grow® stimulates early root formation and stronger root development resulting in plants that become more readily established with better growth.

BONIDE® Root & Grow® can be applied every 4-6 weeks throughout the growing season.

BALLED & BURLAP (B&B) PLANTS

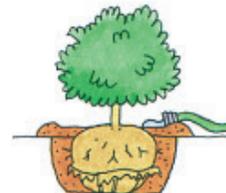
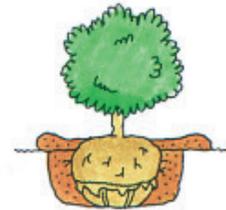
In the case of root balls wrapped in burlap, cut all strings and burlap away from the trunk/stem after the root ball is placed in the planting hole. Be careful not to damage the root ball or roots. Today, almost all burlap is biodegradable and need not be removed from the root ball. Synthetic burlap, which is rarely used, **MUST** be cut or removed.

DO NOT try to cut or remove wire baskets while the plant is out of the planting hole, as the root ball may break apart. The top of the wire basket may be cut away with heavy wireshears only after root ball is partially backfilled.



Before the hole is entirely filled with backfill mix, water the soil and roots thoroughly with **BONIDE® Root & Grow®** around the root ball. Finish backfilling after all the visible water has drained. Add a 2-3" layer of mulch around the base of the plant to help keep the root zone from drying out.

DO NOT pile the mulch against the stem or crown of the plant, as it can attract rodents and encourage the growth of disease organisms on the stem. Create a saucer out from and around the trunk to help capture and conserve water



The #1 cause of plant failure in the first year is improper watering. In general, young plants need the equivalent of one inch of water per week. Deep, less frequent watering is better than frequent, superficial watering.

Visually check new plantings often. Do not assume sprinkler systems are doing the proper job. Be careful not to overwater. **Note:** Container plantings will dry out faster and may require more water than plants planted in the ground. A Treegator slow release watering bag for new plantings and soaker hoses can also be used and will cut down on time spent watering. Check our Plant Aftercare for additional information about proper watering.

Heavy fertilization is not recommended for new transplants. **Espoma Bio-Tone Starter Plus** along with **BONIDE® Root & Grow®** will take care of the initial feeding of newly planted trees and shrubs. After that, a monthly feeding of **BONIDE® Root & Grow®** through mid-August will provide the nutrients new plants need during the critical first year.

The general rule of thumb going forward is to fertilize trees and shrubs in early spring and again in late fall (at 1/2 strength). **Espoma Holly-tone** is recommended for acid loving plants, which includes Conifers and Broadleaf Evergreens. **Espoma Plant-tone** or **Tree-tone** can be used on deciduous trees and shrubs.

Rohsler's Allendale Nursery

100 FRANKLIN TURNPIKE,

ALLENDALE, NJ 07401

201-327-3156

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