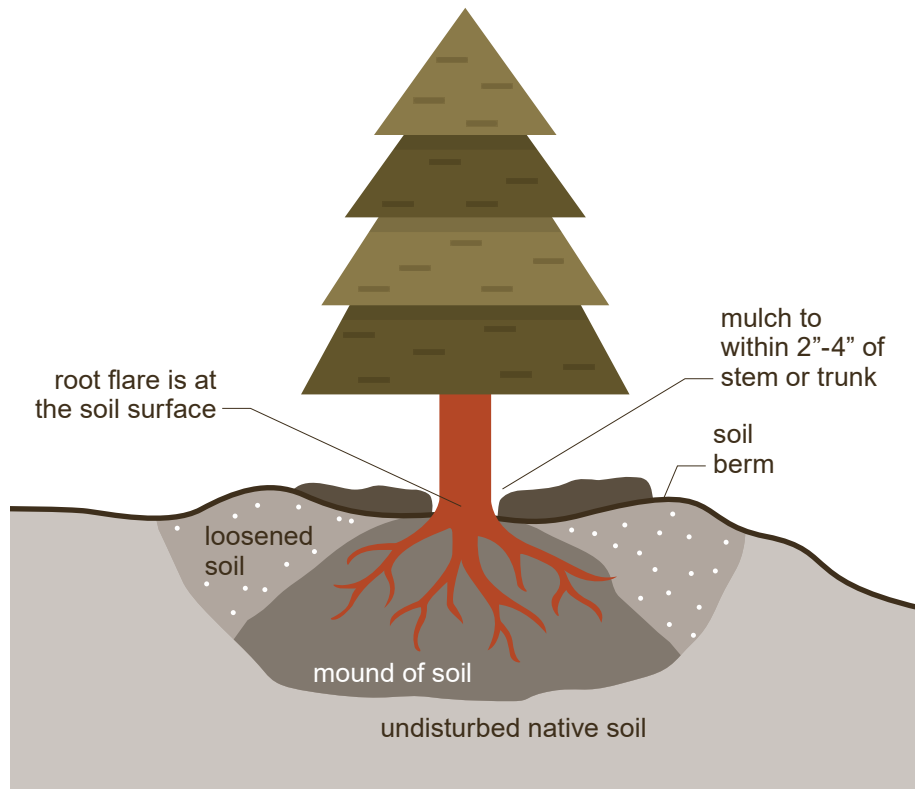


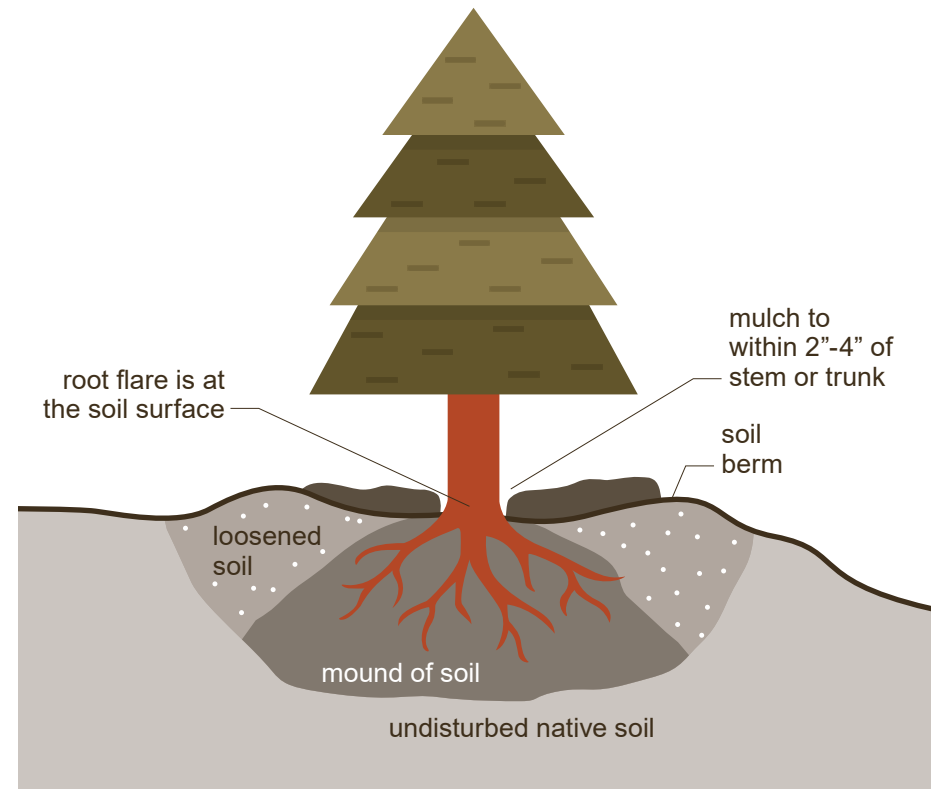
Proper Planting is Paramount!

Help your tree put their best root forward. Take time to plant carefully. Fall is the best time of year to plant, giving them time to grow roots and adapt to the site. Don't forget to water! Deeply water, at least five gallons, each week during the growing season from March to November to develop healthy roots.



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PLANTING STEPS

- 1** Take the plant out of its pot or burlap to view its root size. Keep the roots wet.
- 2** Dig a saucer-shaped hole 2-3 times the width of the root mass, and about as deep. Fill hole with water and let drain.
- 3** Build a mound of soil at the bottom of the hole.
- 4** Loosen bound roots and gently shake off excess potting soil. Prune circling or broken roots. We want loose roots, not bound roots!
- 5** Gently spread the roots evenly over the soil mound. The roots should not circle in the hole.
- 6** Place the plant so the root flare (where the roots join the stem) is slightly above the soil surface.
- 7** Replace soil into the hole so it fills the space between the roots.
- 8** Water generously and add more soil to fill the hole up to the root flare. Create a soil berm around the planting hole to retain moisture.
- 9** Mulch! Wood chips and compost are great mulches. Spread at least 4 inches deep and keep 2 to 4 inches away from the stem. Do not use plastic or artificial weed barriers!

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