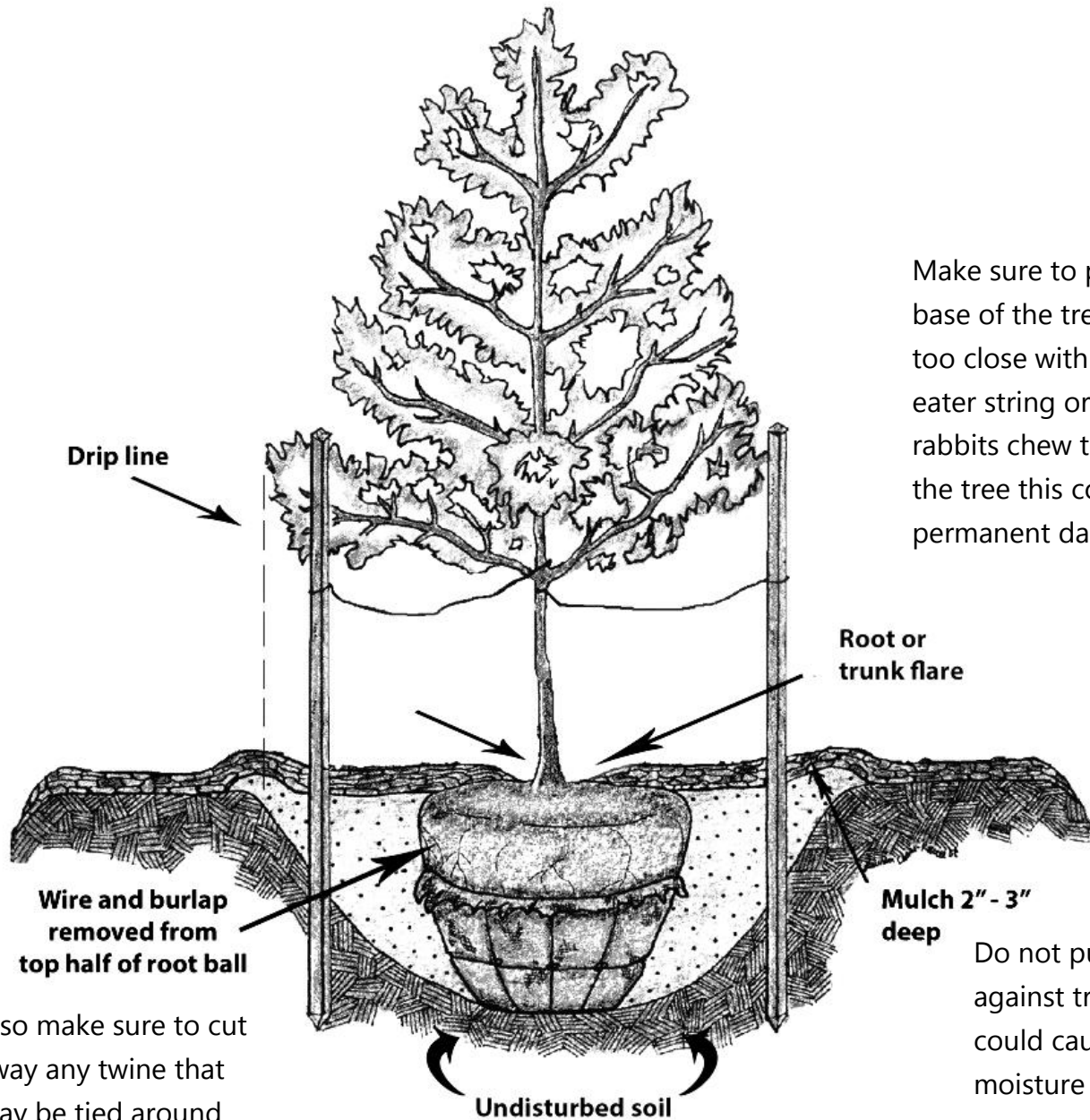


Tree Planting & Watering



Make sure to protect the base of the tree. If you get too close with the weed eater string or animals like rabbits chew the base of the tree this could cause permanent damage.

Wire and burlap removed from top half of root ball

Also make sure to cut away any twine that may be tied around the trunk of the tree.

Root or trunk flare

Mulch 2" - 3" deep

Do not push mulch up against trunk. This could cause excess moisture lead to rot.

Undisturbed soil

If you have clay or rocky soil it would be beneficial to add good soil around the root ball when you backfill in the hole.

When watering,

- Water slowly for a longer period of time. Let the hose trickle out at the base of the tree for 15-30 minutes depending on the size of the tree. This ensures that the water is able to soak down into the soil and reach the roots. (If you blast a tree with water or pour a bucket of water at the base of the tree the water will most likely run away from the base of the tree before it gets a chance to soak down into the soil and reach the roots.)
- Depending on weather you will want to water every 7-10 days. If you water too often the soil is not getting a chance to dry out in between watering and will be constantly wet and could cause the roots to rot. You will want to water more often when it is hot and less often when it is cool or we are getting a good rain. You can check the moisture in the soil by moving aside the mulch and feeling the dirt below. If the dirt is still damp from the last time you watered make sure to let it dry out before you water again.
- Keep in mind that newly planted trees should be watered regularly up until the ground freezes. If we have a wet spring wait until the ground is drying out to water again. If we have a hot dry summer trees that were planted a year or two prior may need regular watering again as they probably have not grown enough of a root system to reach down into the stored ground water.

How to properly mulch your trees

Too much mulch can hurt trees and shrubs.

Piling up mulch up around the trunk or stem can damage the tree.

Continuous moisture on the trunk will cause cankers and splits, and allow disease and pests.

Excess moisture in the root zone will stress the plant and cause root rot.



Incorrect



Correct

Check depth of mulch. If 2 to 4 inches is already there, just rake to refresh and break up mats.

If mulch is piled against the trunk or stem, pull it back several inches so that the base of the trunk and stem crown is exposed.

Apply a 2 to 4 inch layer. Do not place mulch near the trunk.

Keep mulch flat, not mounded, so that water will not run off.