

**L**ANDON'S  
GREENHOUSE & NURSERY  
56 LANDON LANE \* 505 COLLEGE MEADOWS  
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*Adding Color to Your Life*

**Planting Bare Root Nursery Stock**

1. **Plant as soon as possible!**
2. If you have to wait more than 1 day, remove the plants from the plastic and put them in a cool shady place. Cover the roots and **keep them moist**. Do not let them get moldy. **Do not let them freeze.**
3. Soak the roots in a bucket of water overnight before planting. Do not let them dry out. Dig a hole into which the roots will easily fit. If the sides of the hole are smooth, roughen them with a shovel. To protect turf, place the soil on a tarp or in a wheelbarrow.
4. Mix the native soil with organic matter (compost is best). Generally, a rate of 1:3 (one shovel of compost to 3 shovels of native soil) is ideal in our region. Phosphate fertilizer mixed into the backfill soil is also beneficial.
5. When planting, prune off broken roots or excessively long roots. **Do not over-prune the roots**, or bend them to make them fit into the hole. Mound a small amount of soil in the bottom of the hole. Find the soil line at which it was growing in the nursery before being dug up. Align that with ground level, spread out the roots on top of the mound, and fill the hole with the amended backfill soil. Be sure to fill any air holes around the roots. **Do not stamp on the backfill**. This compresses the soil too much. Simply tamp the soil with your hands.
6. Build a small dam with the soil about 3 to 4" high around the newly planted tree or shrub, the same diameter as the hole. This will form a basin around the plant to hold water when you water it. Keep this area free of weeds and grass. It should also be mulched with bark chips, hay, etc.
7. After planting, water slowly but generously, allowing water to fill the basin and penetrate deeply into the soil. After this first watering, the amount of water applied depends on the weather and your soil conditions. Using your green thumb, check the soil daily. If the soil dries out 1 1/2" to 2" down, then water it. This might be a few days, or as long as a month, depending on the weather and your soil. After your plant has leafed out, it may need more frequent watering.
8. If you plant a tree in a windy spot, it should be staked. Two metal T-stakes should be driven into the ground outside the hole, into **firm** ground. The stakes must be on the wind-ward and lee-ward sides of the tree. For best results, use straps, not strings or hose and be sure not to tie the straps too tightly, as this can damage the trunk. Leave a small amount of play in the guy wires so the tree can sway slightly. Remove the straps in one year.

