






















TREE CARE GUIDE

The Brooklyn Nets and National Grid are working together to make our community greener through the **Threes for Trees** program. For every 3 pointer made by a Nets player during a regular season home game, **National Grid** and **Brooklyn Nets** volunteers will plant a tree in the tri-state area. **Together we can help enrich our environment and provide green spaces for generations to come.**

City life can be hard on a tree, but you can make it better.
 Just follow these simple steps to keep your tree healthy.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
											
											
											
											



WATER

Watering your tree is critical to keeping it alive.

Water your tree once a week from March through October. Slowly add 20-25 gallons of water to the soil and let it soak in (moderate flow from a hose for 10 minutes).



CLEAN & PLANT

Clean and maintain the area around the tree. Pull up weeds. Clean up trash and pet waste. Plant flowers or other non-woody plants at least 3 feet away from the trunk of your tree.



PRUNE

Trees should be pruned after the coldest months of winter have passed. Focus on dead, damaged & diseased wood. For trees that bloom in spring, prune when their flowers fade. Make all cuts clean & smooth. Avoid pruning limbs larger than 2" in diameter. Hire a professional arborist if you're not comfortable pruning large trees.



MULCH

In March and October renew mulch around tree. Mulch should be shallow (2-3 inches deep) and wide—the ring can be as wide as the branches of the tree.

Did you receive your tree before the planting season?

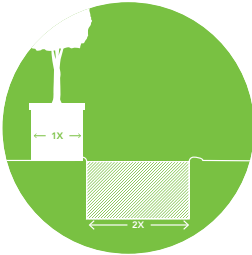
It is important to take care of your tree and to plant it in the ground at the appropriate time. Temperature is extremely important to consider when planning on planting a tree. If the ground is still frozen when reviewing your site, do not plant your tree. When the soil is frozen, roots cannot absorb water and your seedling may struggle to get established.

If you have received your tree prior to the planting season, follow these steps to protect your tree until it is the right time:

1. Store your trees in a larger container either indoors or outdoors until the planting conditions are correct. Select a container that is at least three times the volume of the container your seedling came in. Drainage is important. When selecting a container always check the bottoms of the container to ensure that holes will allow any excess water to drain.
2. Use soil based compost in your container that will retain suitable amounts of moisture without getting waterlogged. Do not use soil found directly from the surrounding area this soil may be prone to weeds, insects, and diseases and is not container suitable. Transplant your tree into the larger container with care, following the planting instructions below.
3. Wait until the ground has thawed and the planting conditions are optimal. Follow the planting instructions below when ready.

NYRP partners with community organizations to conduct the largest municipal tree giveaway program in the country. Learn more about tree giveaways at www.nyrp.org/treegiveaways

STEP 1



- Dig a hole as deep as the pot and twice as wide.
- * Call 811 if planting in your front yard to avoid gas and electrical lines!

STEP 2



- To remove tree from pot:
- Press and roll the pot on the ground.
 - Slide tree from pot.
 - Untangle the largest roots – some root loss is normal, a ripping sound is okay.

STEP 3



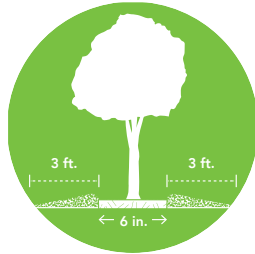
- Carefully place tree in the center of the hole.
- Make sure trunk is straight.
- Lay shovel or stick over the hole to make sure trunk flare is 1" above ground.

STEP 4



- Fill in the hole with soil and pack it down until the tree is stable.

STEP 5



- Make a 3 ft. wide, 3 in. tall mulch ring starting 6 in. from the tree trunk.
- Keep soil and mulch from touching the trunk.

STEP 6



- As soon as your tree is planted, water it!
- Give your tree 25 gallons of water – every week from March to October – by filling five 5-gallon buckets or use a hose at moderate flow for 10 minutes.

Watch our tree planting demonstration video on www.nyrp.org/treegiveaways

SELECT YOUR SITE

Choose a site that is at least 5 feet away from any structure including fences. Select a site that is 15-20 feet away from any building with chipping or peeling paint that may be a source of lead. Pay attention to overhead wires – remember these trees will grow. And always remember to call 811 if planting in your front yard to avoid gas and electrical lines!

KNOW YOUR SOIL

Healthy soil is the key to a healthy tree! Avoid compaction and soil coming into contact with the trunk. If you are concerned about lead and other toxins in your soil testing should be done before you plant your tree. Make sure to wear gloves and a mask when digging in contaminated soil.

MANAGE PESTS

Trees attract various pests, fungi, and bacteria. Closely monitor your tree(s) for pests and manage any problems before they get out of hand.