

Mulching Trees

Once a tree is planted, mulch around the tree. Mulch should be maintained at a depth of three or four inches. A mulch-free area should be maintained within six inches of the stem of the plant to discourage rodents and allow the trunk flare to remain dry.

The mulch area should extend at least one or two feet beyond the planting hole because the roots may expand that far or farther within the first growing season. The increased area of mulch provides favorable conditions for continued root expansion and establishment.