



MORE DETAILS & REFERENCE MATERIALS

- Wisconsin DNR: New Tree Planting**
<http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/fr/FR0184.pdf>
- Charles River Watershed Association: Stormwater Tree Pit**
www.crwa.org/free-stormwater-tree-pit-fact-sheet
- USDA: Managing Stormwater for Urban Sustainability Using Trees and Structural Soils**
<http://urbanforestry.frec.vt.edu/stormwater/Resources/TreesAndStructuralSoilsManual.pdf>



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STORMWATER TREE CARE

Manage Water Where it Falls



Stormwater trees can hold rainwater on their leaves and branches, infiltrate it into the ground, absorb it through root systems, and evapotranspire it to the atmosphere. They can be planted in engineered soils and used with other types of green infrastructure.

INSTALLATION

The best time to plant a tree is in spring or early fall. This gives the tree time to root and adapt before being exposed to more extreme temperature and weather conditions during summer and winter seasons.

- 1 Choose the right tree for the right location—contact your local nursery for help.
- 2 Dig a hole 3 times the diameter of the container or root ball. The depth should be equal to the height of the root ball, never deeper.
- 3 Place the root ball into the hole and cover with the mixed soil. Do not bury over the crown (where the stem changes to root) or leave any roots exposed.
- 4 Add a 2-to-4 inch layer of mulch. Keep mulch a minimum of one inch away from the trunk to avoid pest and disease problems.

TIPS

- Before you dig, call **Digger's Hotline (811 or 1-800-242-8511)**.
- For planting trees in clay soil: avoid "glazing" which occurs when the sides and bottom of a hole become smoothed, forming a barrier because water has difficulty passing through it. To avoid glazing, use a fork to work the bottom and drag the points along the sides of the completed hole.

MAINTENANCE

WATERING

- Trees should get about an inch of rain a week. If the rain does not happen, about 10 gallons of water a week is needed. The 10 gallons could be split up into 2 days over the week. This drives the water deep into the soil, forcing the tree roots to do the same- helping drought tolerance in the future.

FALL

- Rake and collect leaves
- Keep leaf piles clear of sewer/storm drains
- Dispose/recycle leaves per municipal code

ANYTIME

- Trim to provide clearance for street vehicles, utility lines and other physical objects
- Remove trash and debris, especially after severe storm events

CARE

- Prune to remove broken and dead twigs, sprouts that are growing out of the base of the tree, and crossed or rubbing branches.
- Staking is only necessary if the tree is situated in a windy site. Stake for a minimum of one year. *(NOTE: Evergreens rarely require staking.)*
- In the first few years you want root growth to ensure the tree survives drought periods. Mulch placed around the tree will break down and amend the soil like compost but more slowly. Do not use compost or fertilizer when first planting your tree.

