Boston Tree Planting Guide

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THE BEST TIME TO PLANT A TREE
IS EARLY SPRING OR DURING THE
FALL MONTHS.

SPRING · MARCH 15 - MAY 15
FALL · OCTOBER 15 - DECEMBER 1

SELECT A TREE TO FIT THE SITE.
CAREFULLY CONSIDER LOCATION
AND AVAILABLE SPACE.

GOOD 'CITY' TREES INCLUDE:

- BRADFORD CALLERY PEAR *
- GINKGO
- GREEN ASH
- KATSURA
- LITTLE LEAF LINDEN
- LONDON PLANE
- PIN OAK
- RED OAK
- SYCAMORE MAPLE
- THORNLESS HONEY LOCUST
- TREE OF HEAVEN *
- JAPANESE ZELKOVA

* DENOTES SMALLER TREES SUITABLE
FOR SMALL SCALE STREETSCAPES.

PLANT THE TREE

- DIG THE TREE PIT. ALL PITS SHOULD BE 2 FEET WIDER THAN THE ROOT SPREAD & PROVIDE AMPLE SPACE. FOUR INCHES OF TOPSOIL SHOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE ROOT SYSTEM.
- PROVIDE GOOD QUALITY TOPSOIL OR LOAM. ONE THIRD PEAT MOSS OR HUMUS SHOULD BE WORKED INTO THE SOIL, ESPECIALLY AROUND THE ROOT SYSTEM.

PLACE THE TREE IN THE PIT

- PEEL OFF ONE THIRD OF THE BURLAP FROM THE TOP OF THE ROOT BALL.
- GENTLY MOVE THE PLANT UP AND DOWN TO ASSURE CONTACT OF ROOTS WITH SOIL. THIS WILL PREVENT AIR POCKETS.

WHEN ROOTS ARE COVERED TRAMPLE THE SOIL FIRMLY BUT GENTLY.

CARE FOR YOUR TREE

- PROVIDE WATER. DEEP, THOROUGH WATERINGS ARE BEST. (2 BUCKETS A DAY.)
- A SUPPORT IS NECESSARY FOR A YOUNG TREE. STAKES OR GUYS ARE BEST, BE CAREFUL TO PLACE THEM AT LEAST ONE FOOT OUTSIDE THE ROOT BALL SO THE ROOTS WILL NOT BE DAMAGED. AFTER TWO YEARS THIS CAN BE REMOVED.
- DO NOT FERTILIZE YOUR NEWLY PLANTED TREE THE FIRST YEAR. FERTILIZER SHOULD BE APPLIED IN THE EARLY SPRING BEFORE NEW GROWTH BEGINS, OR IN THE LATE FALL. NEVER FERTILIZE IN MID TO LATE SUMMER.
- TO PROTECT THE TREE FROM COMPACTION SOME TYPE OF TREE GRATE OR EDGING IS ADVISABLE.