

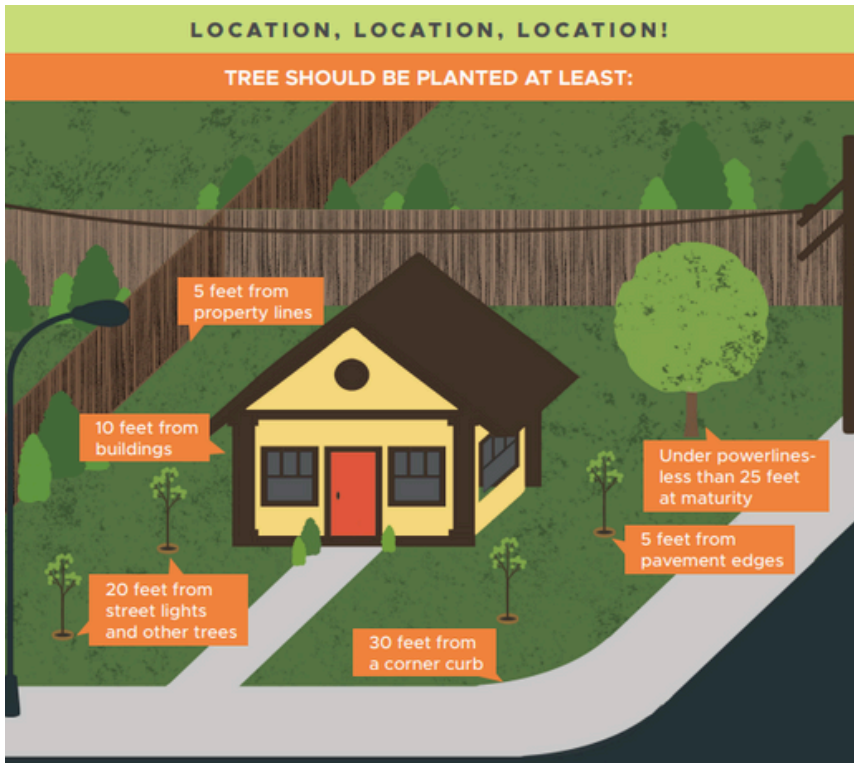
TUKWILA TREE GIVEAWAY

HOW TO PLANT YOUR TREE(S)

1

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLACE

Trees should be planted between October-March while there is plenty of rain to help roots establish.



Graphic courtesy of the City of Kirkland, made possible by funding from Washington Department of Ecology

- Observe the sun and water patterns in your space. Is your planting location in direct sun? Is it shaded for part of the day? Is the ground usually dry or do you find water?
- Note how large your desired tree gets, use google to look at aerial imagery of your property to visualize what a 30+ ft. mature tree will look like in your space
- Ensure planting location has adequate spacing from underground and overhead utilities such as water and sewer lines and backyard power lines. We recommend you call 811, the free service to help you locate utilities.

2

DIG A HOLE

- Clear any debris, grass, rocks/sticks from your desired planting area.
- Dig a hole about twice as wide as the pot and as deep as the pot - make sure your hole is deep enough to allow the roots to point down.

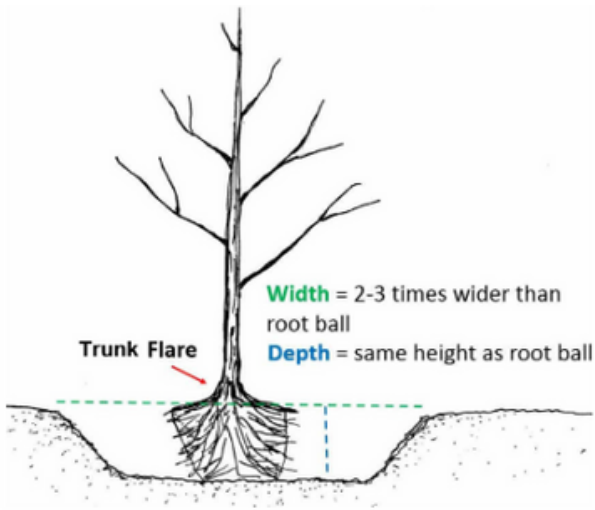
3

PREPARE THE PLANT AND ROOTS

- Push in the sides of the pot to loosen and remove the tree from the pot.
- Gently loosen the roots with your fingers and/or a tool. You want to untangle the roots so that they are pointing down rather than circling around. Roots that curve around rather than pointing downward can damage the tree as it grows.

4

ADD TREE TO HOLE AND REPLACE SOIL



Graphic courtesy of the City of Seattle - Trees for Seattle

- Once roots are untangled, place the tree into the hole. Arrange the roots to point down in the hole, rather than curling back up.
- Ensure the root/trunk flare (where the roots meet the above ground tree stem) is even with the ground. If you have an extra set of hands, it can be helpful to have someone hold the tree in its correct spot as you begin to fill the soil back in.
- Pack the tree roots into the hole, combining the soil from the hole you dug and the soil from the pot. Do not add fertilizer or compost to the planting hole.
- Make sure all the roots are covered under the dirt, but keep all of the stem exposed.

5

FINAL TOUCHES

- Once you've packed your tree into the ground, gently tug the top of the tree to see if it comes out of the ground at all. If the tree comes out of the ground at all, continue to firmly press the soil into the ground with your hands and/or feet.
- If possible, water your tree immediately. This will help eliminate air pockets.
- Remove plastic tags and/or stake from your tree.
- Additionally, if you have wood mulch available, add about 10 gallons in a donut shape around the tree. Getchipdrop.com is a easy, free way to get wood mulch delivered. Mulch should not touch the tree stem, as it can cause the tree to rot.
- Send us a photo of your newly planted tree(s)!

6

FOLLOW-UP

- Water your tree twice a week in the summer for the first 3-5 years.
- Re-apply mulch in the summer if possible.
- Email maya.klem@kingcd.org with any questions related to your tree.

