



Pell Family Farm

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Tree Care Instructions

● Planting

- Holes should be dug slightly larger than the root ball
- All trees grown at Pell Farm Nursery are hand dug
- The burlap and string should be left on the root ball to keep the root system together
 - These materials are biodegradable and the roots will grow through the burlap
 - Ensure burlap is covered by dirt or mulch

● Mulch

- Mulch around the top of the root ball. This keeps moisture in the ground and temperature more even
- Mulch should not touch the trunk- dig out a small ring around the trunk

● Water

- Trees need to be watered for the first full year or until they have an established root system
- Soaker hose is the recommended method- can use a timer
 - A slow trickle of water is the best for saturating the root ball. Ideally, water will reach deeper than the root ball to promote deep root growth.
 - Ensure all portions of the soaker hose are putting out the same amount of water
 - Water at least 3-4 hours at a time. For trees over 5 feet tall, leave soaker hose on overnight or 5-6 hours in the morning
- Spring & Fall: water heavy once a week- do not worry about overwatering if watering once a week
- Summer or when hot and dry: water 2-3 times a week heavy ○ Daily watering not recommended. Roots need air and can rot if they sit wet

● Fertilizer

- Do not fertilize the first year to avoid burning the roots since the roots are freshly cut from digging
- After the first year, a 10-10-10 fertilizer can be applied in the spring