

NeighborWoods

TREE STEWARDSHIP

New trees require some basic maintenance for them to thrive into maturity. Read more on what you can do to ensure healthy growth.

WATER DURING THE HOT MONTHS. Between April and October, you will need to water your new tree with about 5 gallons of water/week – unless it rains. If you're not sure if your tree needs water, you can simply stick your finger into the ground next to the tree. If the soil feels moist, the tree is hydrated. If not, water.

When watering, do so slowly. One way is to create a mulch ring around the tree, pour 5 gallons of water into it and let the water seep down. Another method is to place a hose beside the tree and let it run on a slow trickle.



MAKE MULCH YOUR BEST FRIEND. Mulching is one of the most important piece of tree care. Use any organic plant material and don't forget to create a doughnut of mulch (not a volcano) to avoid mulching touching the tree's stem! (See picture on right.)

REMOVING THE STAKE. Your new tree likely came with a bamboo stake to keep it steady while young. You can keep it on for the first 6-12 months after planting, but remove it after that! The plastic ties can girdle the tree's vascular system.



PRUNING, FERTILIZING, ETC. We have lots more tree care info on TreesCharlotte.org and will be sharing all our resources with you once the event is complete.