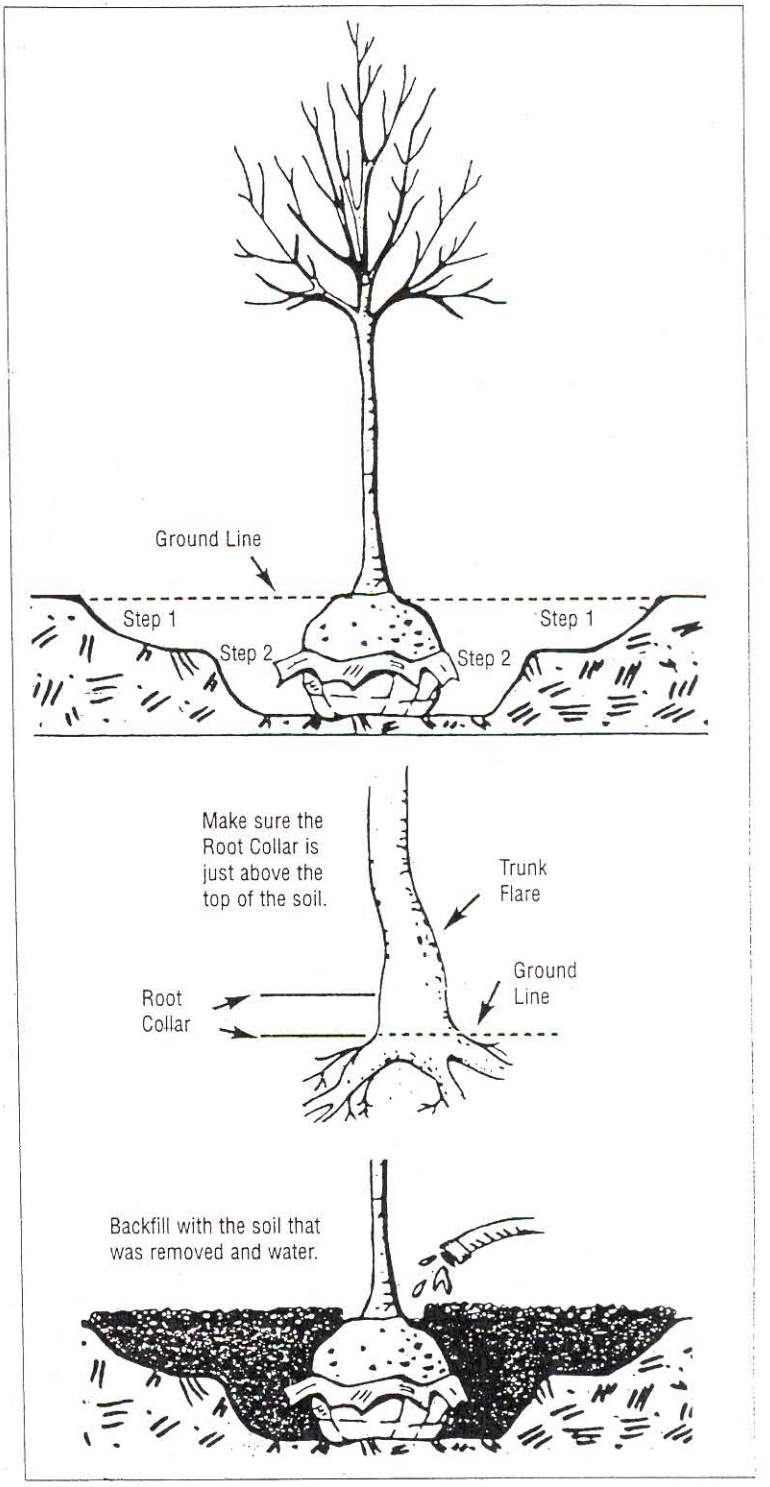
Plant A Tree The Right Way!

Containerized and Balled & Burlapped Trees and Shrubs

Select the right tree for the right site and ...

- **Measure how deep to plant the tree.** The tree's root collar (right above the root system) should be just above the surface of the soil.
- **Prepare the site** by digging a wide saucer shaped hole 2 to 3 times larger than the root ball. *(Step 1)*
- **Dig a second hole** in the center of the large circle that is 1 foot larger in diameter than the root ball and as deep as the root collar maintaining undisturbed soil beneath the root ball. Don't dig the hole too deep. It is better to have the root ball 1-2 inches higher than ground level because of possible settling. *(Step 2)*
- **Place the tree** carefully in the center of the hole. Use care not to break the root ball. Position the tree as straight as possible and to the proper depth before back filling.
- **Back fill** the hole with the soil that was removed. As the back fill is added, lightly push the soil around the roots or water the soil to eliminate air pockets (do not pack the soil after you water). Continue to back fill to the height just below the root collar. Don't back fill the tree too deeply.
- **Mulch with composted woodchips** to a depth of 2" to 4" on top of the planting circle. Keep the mulch 6" away from the trunk to prevent fungus from growing on the tree trunk. The mulch helps to retain moisture, controls weed growth and protects the tree from mowers and trimmers.
- **Water** is very important to a newly planted tree. A slow, root saturating one-hour trickle once a week provides the new roots with sufficient moisture without drowning them. If it rains or is very dry, the watering schedule should be adjusted accordingly.



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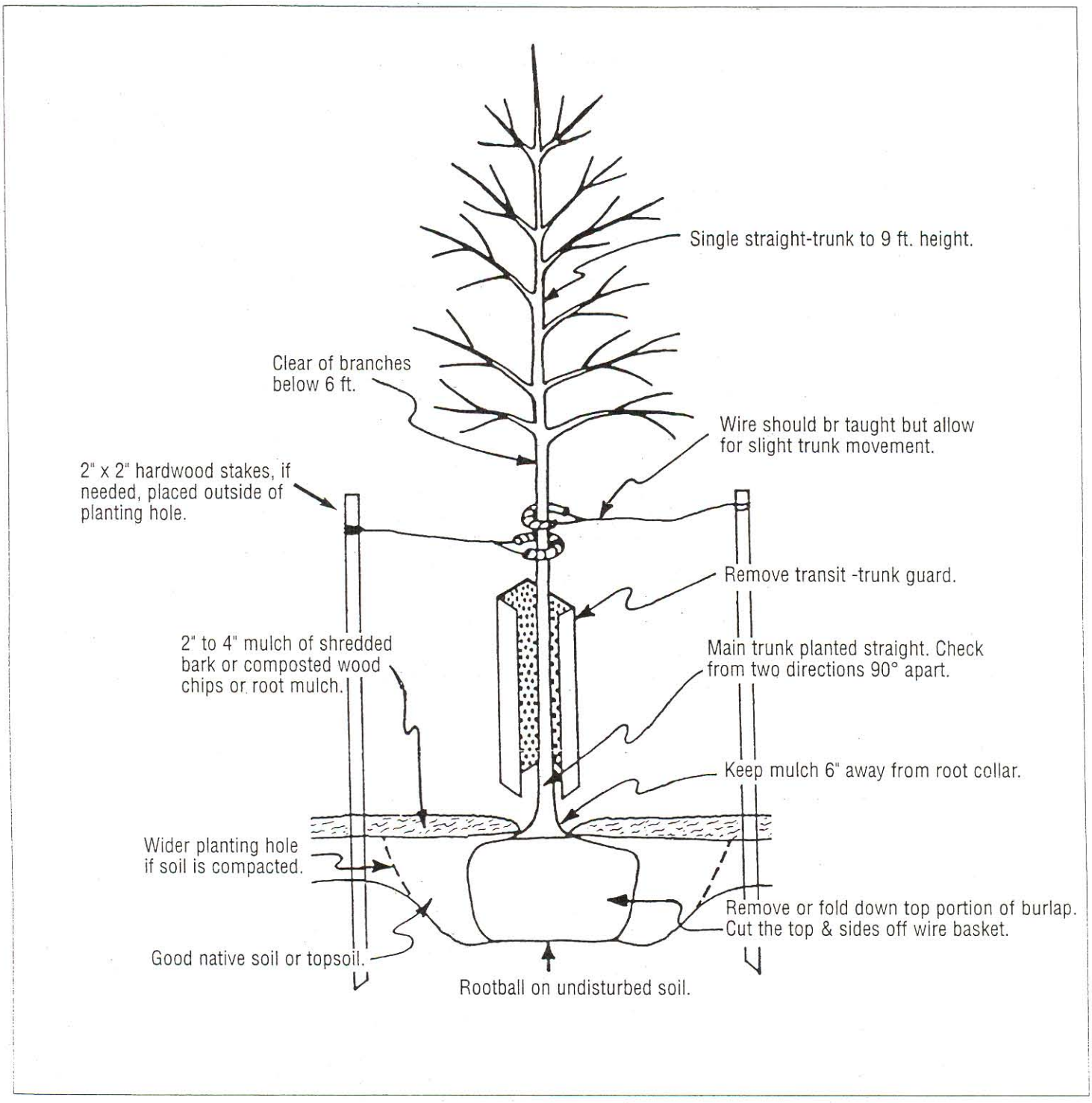
Tree Planting Detail

Use this simple guide to help you plant your next tree.



Plant Trees!
Bring Life to Your Community!