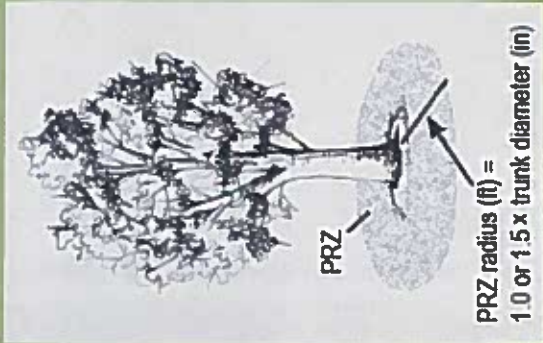


PROTECT YOUR TREE



Use care when mowing or trimming near your tree! Mowers and other equipment can easily cause open wounds that are a gateway for disease, rot fungi, and insects. Repeated injury around the trunk will prevent water and nutrients from feeding the tree, ultimately killing it. A 2-3 ft. wide ring of mulch (see previous section "Mulch Your Tree") will protect bark and trunk damage.

Do not tie ropes, chains, leashes, or other materials around your tree. They can harm or kill the tree.

Remove any support stakes, if present, after one full growing season.

THANK YOU!

By participating in this reforestation program, you are helping to restore the urban tree canopy of Long Island. Future generations thank you for creating shade, cleaning our air, purifying our water supply, and beautifying our neighborhoods. Thank you for your space, time and care. Most of all...Enjoy Your Tree!!!

For more information about the

Asian Longhorned Beetle visit:

www.beetlebusters.info

NOTE:

This brochure is a limited reference manual of proper care for new and established trees. Please refer to the guide below for more detailed care and maintenance instructions, provided by the USDA Forest Service.

www.treeownersmanual.info

For more information contact:

Cornell Cooperative Extension

of Nassau County

Urban Forestry Department

832 Merrick Avenue

East Meadow, NY 11554

516-565-5265 ext. 15

alb replanting@cornell.edu

www.ccenassau.org/albreforestation

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Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Nassau County

CARING FOR YOUR NEW TREES



Compliments of:
**Cornell Cooperative Extension of
Nassau County**

832 Merrick Avenue
East Meadow, NY 11554
Phone: 516-565-5265
www.ccenassau.org

CARING FOR YOUR NEW TREES

WATER YOUR TREE

First 3 years after planting:

- Check every other day in fast-draining soils, weekly in slow-draining soils
- Water the root ball and just beyond

All other years:

- Check weekly
- Water within the drip line or, for large trees, at the base and at the drip line




Tree survival is greatly dependent on providing the right amount of water. Soils that drain quickly will require more frequent watering than those that drain slowly (see pg. 34 in the tree owner's manual for help determining soil drainage rate.) For the first three years in April-October provide 10-15 gallons of water once per week. During hot/dry weather (July/Aug) provide 15-20 gallons twice a week. Tip: allow the area inside the mulch ring to fill up completely and drain twice.

Following year's watering will be dependent upon soil type and weather conditions, so irrigation schedule and watering amount may vary.

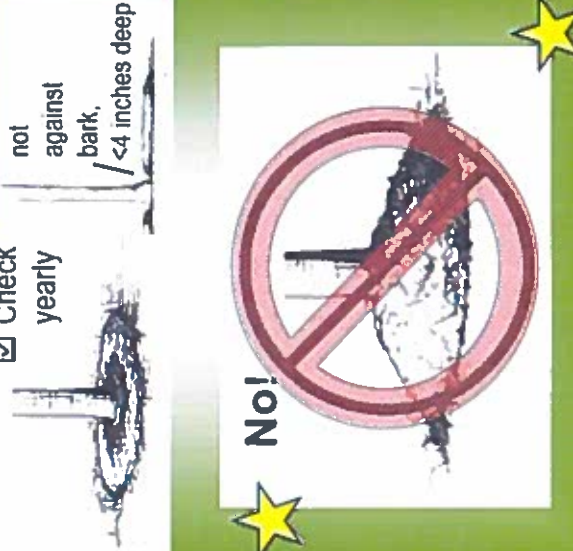
Soil saturated with water for more than 24 hours can prevent roots from getting oxygen. Therefore, watering too much is as dangerous as watering too little (and is harder to correct).

MULCH YOUR TREE

- Check yearly

not against bark, <4 inches deep

No!



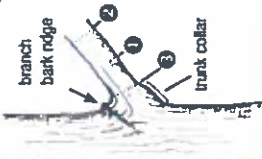
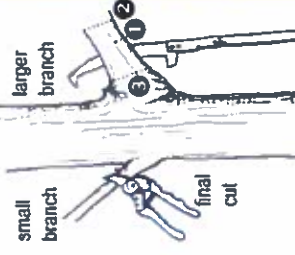
Maintain a 2-3 ft. wide ring of mulch around the tree (the wider the better). This will help keep moisture in the soil and prevent damage from mowers and other equipment. Organic matter like wood chips or leaves are best as these will become soil over time. Wood chips will not require replacement as often as leaves. DO NOT pile mulch against trunk of tree ("volcano mulching") and NEVER use more than 4 inches of mulch as this may inhibit oxygen from reaching the roots and have other damaging impacts.

A 5-page layer of newspaper covered with mulch will eliminate any grass in the surrounding area.

PRUNE YOUR TREE

Three-step method

- Cut one-third of the way through the branch on the under side.
- Go 2-4 inches beyond the undercut to remove the branch.
- Make the final cut just outside the branch bark ridge and trunk collar.

Commencing 2 years after planting, prune lightly every year or every other year. Pruning should be done during the winter as branches are easier to see, diseases are less likely to spread, and there is minimal stress to the tree. Do not remove more than 25% of the tree's live branches at any one time. Removal of broken, dead and rubbing branches can be done each year. Branches sprouting from the base can also be done yearly.

NEVER top your tree. This immediately damages trees and increases chance of decay, insect infestation, and disease. It also greatly reduces the stability and structural soundness of the tree resulting in a significantly reduced life span. (See pgs. 18-22 in tree owner's manual for detailed information on pruning and maintenance.)