

Before you can plant a tree or do anything else to the land, you must first have permission from the property owner. It is never okay to do anything to anyone else's property without their approval.

Once you have permission to plant your tree, what do you do next?

- Select a site with enough room for roots and branches to reach full size. Avoid overhead utilities, and ask an adult to call the utility company before digging a deep hole.
- Prepare a planting area as deep as the root ball and 3 to 5 times its diameter. Dig a hole in the middle of the area and set the root ball even with the ground level.

- Make a mound of dirt around the tree trunk, with a trough around the base of the tree. Rainwater will collect in the trough and be absorbed more directly through the soil to the roots.
- Use water to settle soil and remove air pockets in planting area.
- Stake the tree to flex with the wind only if the tree is unable to stand up to wind.
- Spread a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch on the entire area, but not within 6 inches of the tree trunk

Planting a Tree The Right Way

