

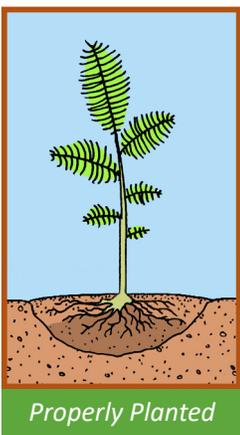


# Planting Bareroot Stock



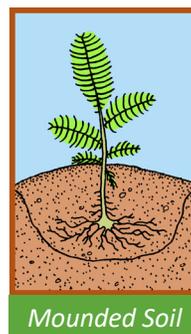
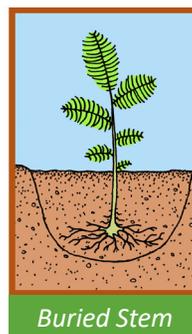
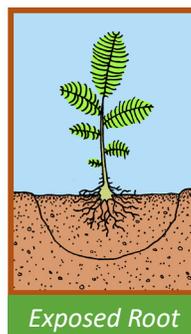
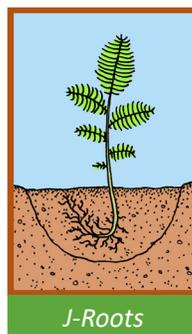
Bareroot plants are sold without soil around their roots. Only available during winter, they are inexpensive and easy to plant. The roots must be protected – covered, kept moist, and kept cool yet not freezing temperatures – until they are planted in the ground.

## Steps for Successful Planting



- 1 Clear a 2-foot circle where the bareroot plant will be planted. Remove all sod, weeds, mulch or other material until you get to bare soil.
- 2 Dig a hole as wide and deep as the roots reach – being sure to allow them to spread out and not bend. Set aside the excavated soil for use in planting the bareroot plant. Do not mix other materials into the excavated soil.
- 3 Use some of the excavated soil to create a mound in the middle of the hole. Position the roots so they spread down and out along the sides of the mound.
- 4 Take care to spread the roots so they are not clumped or crowded together. Also, the tips of the roots should not be turned up (J-rooted).
- 5 Be sure to plant them no deeper than where the uppermost root flares out from the stem. This flare, or root collar, is the transition from roots to stem and needs to be even with the surrounding ground surface.
- 6 Backfill the hole with the excavated soil, breaking up any large chunks of soil. Avoid over compacting soil around roots.
- 7 It's recommended that coarse mulch, to a depth of 4-6", be spread around the root zone of the plant. Take care to keep mulch away from the trunk of woody plants.

### Common Planting Errors to Avoid



Illustrations courtesy of King Conservation District

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