

Tree Care Tips

For your new tree or shrub

1. **Water Regularly:** Water at least once a week for trees and shrubs unless there is plenty of rainfall, and more frequently during hot, dry weather. When the soil is dry under the layer of mulch, it is watering time.
2. **Mulch:** From the time of planting, try and maintain at least 2 inches of mulch at all times, making sure it does not cover the actual trunk of the tree or shrub. Spread the mulch wide in a donut shape to protect your plant from lawnmower damage.
3. **Avoid using salt:** Salt applied to driveways, walkways, and other areas eventually migrates down into the surrounding soil. This can cause serious damage to trees - even those located several meters away. Chop away ice and use sand instead.
4. **Use organic alternatives to chemical pesticides and fertilizers on lawns and trees:** Improve your soil by adding organic matter each spring and fall. Sprinkle a 1-inch layer of compost on the ground out as far as the branches reach.
5. **Watch for early signs of stress:** Look for weak foliage, discolouration, early leaf loss or visible signs of pests or disease. Identify the specific problem and environmental stresses that may be contributing factors before attempting treatments.