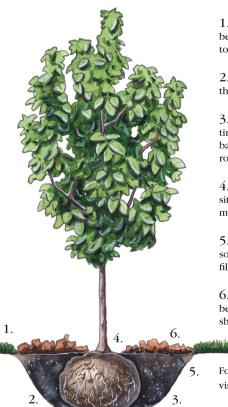
Six things you should know when planting a tree.



- 1. **Call Before You Dig** Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.
- 2. Handle with Care Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.
- 3. **Digging a Proper Hole** Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.
- 4. **Planting Depth** The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the topmost roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.
- 5. **Filling the Hole** Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.
- 6. **Mulch** Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit **arborday.org.**

Source: Arbor Day Foundation

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