



Oak Prairie Nursery & Estates
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WATERING YOUR NEWLY PLANTED TREE

Water is imperative to a trees overall health and survival. Regular irrigation after planting encourages rapid root growth that is essential for tree establishment.

Frost cracks or sunscald on the lower trunk have also been associated with under-irrigation. By giving a tree the appropriate amount of water during the first year of planting will ensure crucial root growth and ultimate survival and good health. Unlike, established plants, research shows that recently transplanted trees and shrubs establish quickest with a good supply of water and then allowing the plant to dry out and water again. Depending on the weather, 1 to 2 watering each week during the first few months after planting is recommended. If the weather is extremely hot and windy, watering more frequently may be required as well as a sprinkler to cool the leaf matter in extreme cases.

At each watering, apply 2-3 gallons of water per inch truck diameter over the root ball. If the mulch area is maintained weed-free, watering does not need to be applied outside the root ball. A water meter (this can be purchased from us or other vendors) is an excellent way to determine if the soil is moist 6"-8" below the ground surface. Once the tree is established you can water twice per month in warm weather and once or twice during the winter during warmer periods that allow the water to soak in.