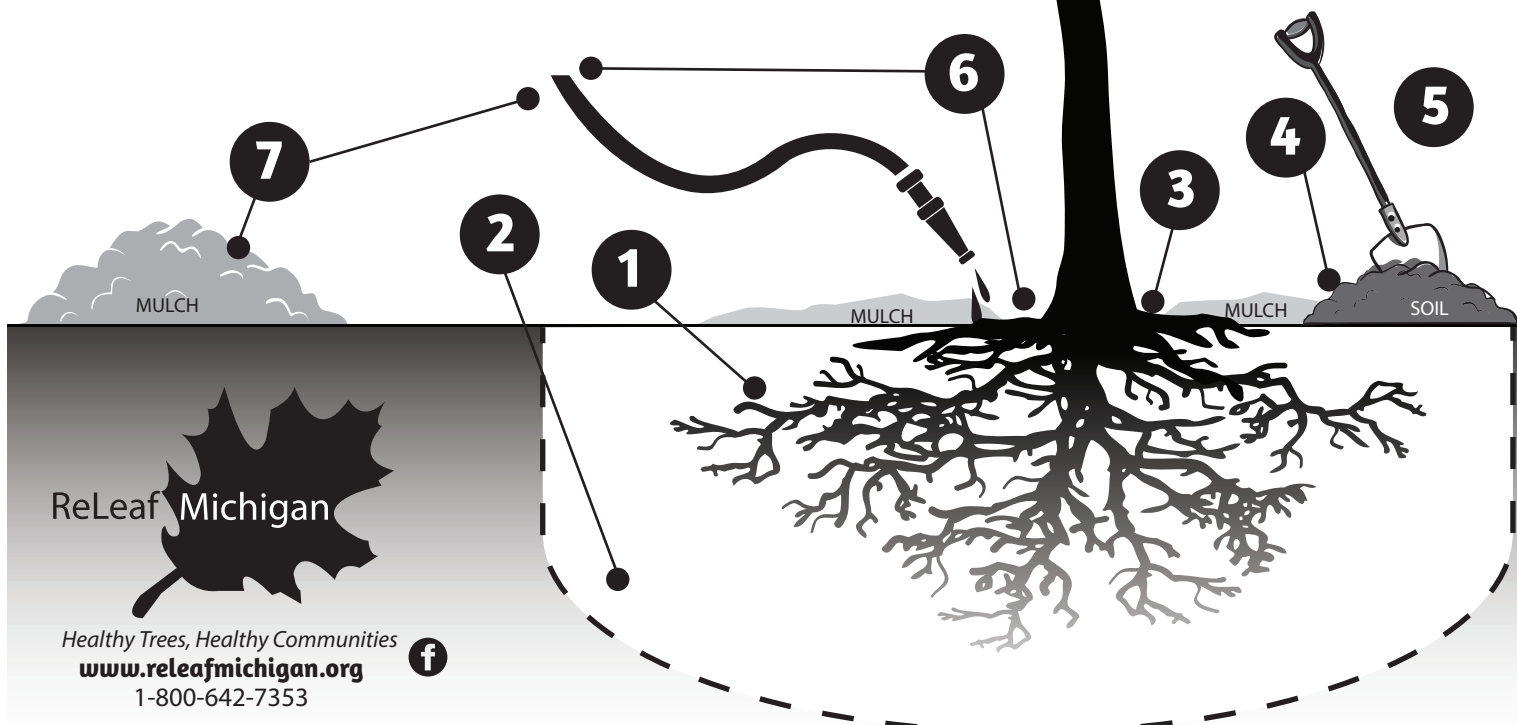
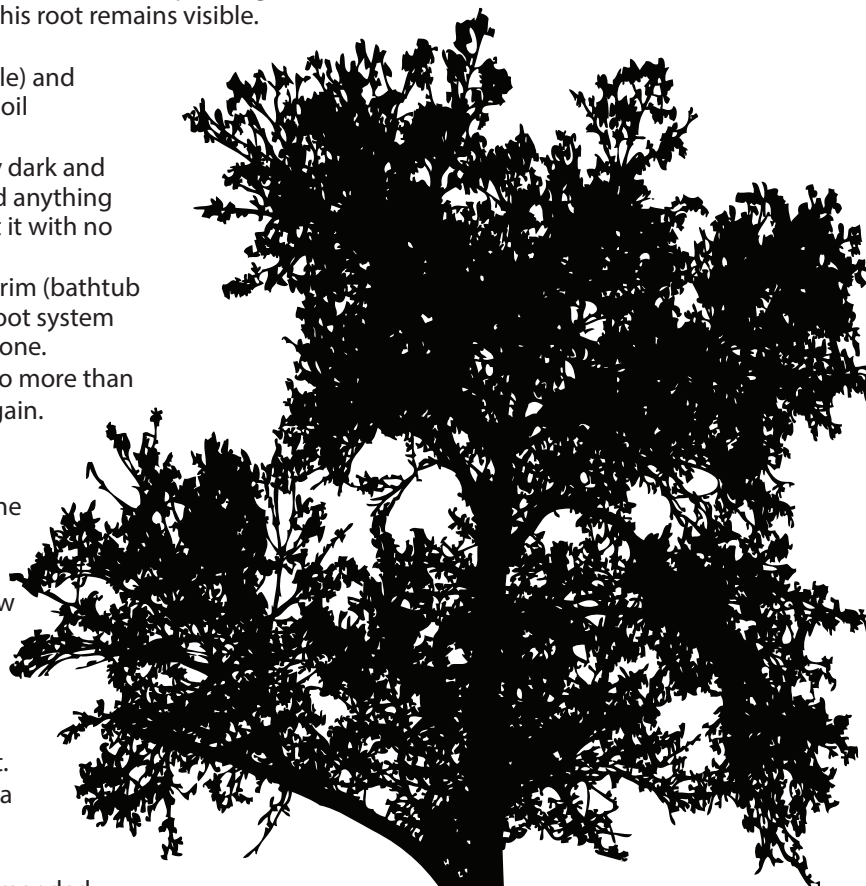


How to Plant Bare-Root Trees

1. Untangle roots and soak them in water for 3-6 hours.
2. Dig hole 2 times larger than root system so the roots have plenty of room. Digging a much larger hole may result in greater risk of the tree tipping over later.
3. Find the first lateral root (root flare) and place the tree in the planting hole adjusting it to make sure the top portion of this root remains visible. Do not bury the root flare with soil or mulch.
4. Begin backfilling (shoveling soil back into hole) and water backfill when hole is half full to settle soil eliminating air pockets.
5. Use only the existing soil. If the soil is already dark and rich in organic matter there is no need to add anything additional. If it is not dark and rich, augment it with no more than 10% organic matter.
6. Complete backfilling to fill hole and create a rim (bathtub effect) at edge of hole to hold water above root system resulting in penetration directly to the root zone.
7. Cover the root zone including the rim with no more than 2 inches of decomposed mulch and water again.

Tips:

- The best time to plant is in the spring after the ground thaws or in the fall before the ground freezes. Planting in the heat of summer will cause heat stress to a fragile new tree and reduce likelihood of survival.
- It is best if trees are planted immediately after they are received. If they have to be stored for a few days before planting, it is important to keep the roots from drying out. This can be done by covering the roots with a pile of mulch or dirt and watering to keep them moist.
- Fertilizing newly planted trees is NOT recommended.
- Do not over-water newly planted trees. Keep the soil in the root zone moist but not soggy. There should be no standing water.
- Staking new bare root trees is acceptable if tree sways too much in the wind. The recommendation to avoid staking is more applied to B&B trees.



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