

## McLean Maple Farm – [mcleanweb.org](http://mcleanweb.org) - Tree Planting Tips

**Do not plant too deep. This is the #1 reason for losing a tree.**

**Dig hole wider than pot (about 2x). Ammend native soil with a planting mix (mix together with native soil). We usually have bags of planting mix available.**

**\* Planting mix is not potting soil, it is mostly ground pine material \***

**Root flare (top root) should be at or just above ground level.**

**Do not "rough up" the roots if the tree has leaves on it.**

**Tree should be planted slightly above ground level (2-4 inches).**

**Build up soil/planting mix to level of tree soil. (not to trunk).**

**Mulch around tree to help retain moisture (not to trunk).**

**Do not plant in a "wet area" they need good drainage.**

**When you get the hole ready, pour water in & make sure it drains well.**

**Water newly planted trees in (deeply), making sure it drains well.**

**DO NOT leave black pots in the all day sunshine, it will cook the roots.**

**If you leave tree in the black pot keep it watered every 1-2 days.**

**When a tree kept in partial shade is planted in the sun it will sometimes get transplant shock. Especially the red ones. You can acclimate a tree from shade to sun by gradually giving it more sun exposure every day until planting it.**

**The night before you plant (or transplant) a tree water it heavy. This will allow the tree to uptake as much water as it can into the leaves prior to planting. Spraying with an anti transpirant such as Nature Shield will aid with transplant shock.**

**Watering first year: Well mulched trees need to be watered every 2-5 days depending on temperature and rainfall. For a 5-7 gallon tree about 2 gallons per watering. A 1/4 inch of rain is not much rain, it will not get to the roots.**

**Trees do NOT like to be transported in the back of an open truck. Too much wind.**

**The red trees tend to "green out" in the late summer months. The first year trees are in the ground they will sometimes get dried out leaves in the summer. This is due to the heat in our area, as the tree ages this will diminish.**

**An anti transpirant will help protect the trees from drying out. We use it on all of the trees and have decided it works very well. You can mix insecticide and mildew preventative in with it. This should be used after plants leaf out.**

**Read about Nature Shield (FAQs) for protecting Japanese Maples & other plants on our website. [www.mcleanweb.org](http://www.mcleanweb.org) We do offer premixed gallons of Nature Shield.**

