



HEDGING AND WINDBREAKS

Hedges may be planted in single rows or double staggered rows, (which result in more rapid growth of a thicker, denser and wider hedge). For low growing hedges such as Cotoneaster, Tatarian Maple, Potentilla, Spirea, Villosa Lillac, Cranberry, Dogwood, and Nanking Cherry, plant hedging 45-90 cm (18-36 in) apart in rows. Tower poplar & Swedish Aspen 1-2 m (3-6 ft) apart. Seabuckthorn, Paper Birch, Sheleterbelt Willow, Skybound Cedar, Colorado Spruce, Balsam Fir and Red Pine should be spaced 2-4 m (6-12 ft) apart, (further apart if desired). Larch, Japspanese Tree Lilac and Flowering Crab should be spaced at least 6 m (18 ft) apart. Generally any heavy pruning should be done in April or May before leaves appear. But the hedge can be trimmed throughout the summer to keep desired shape. On Villosa Lilac do not prune till after they have flowered each year. On evergreens, the best time to prune is in late August after the new growth has finished.

Green Giant Poplar, Prairie Sky Poplar, Paskapoo & Okanese

LargePoplars

As these are very large trees at maturity, space at least 15 - 25 feet apart (Prairie Sky & Paskapoo 10-20 feet apart). For best results as a windbreak, stagger your rows, spacing rows 20 feet apart. Care after planting for optimum growth. Make sure the trees get a heavy soaking at time of planting. Continue weekly waterings right up to August 15, from this point on, let "Mother Nature" do the watering (this will help them ease into dormancy for winter). In the second year fertilize with a 20-20-20 water soluble fertilizer or a Slow Release granular tree and shrub fertilizer as per product instructions. For a most effective wind screen leave branching all the way to the ground.

SHRUBS, TREES & FRUIT TREES

All "bare root" nursery stock (wrapped in cedar shavings) must be soaked for a minimum of 24 hours upon arrival.

Please "DO NOT" soak "seedling plugs" which are all-ready growing in soil, these should just be watered and transplanted directly into the garden.

Please make sure to read the plant label, it tells you how to handle it!

-Separate cedar packing material from roots and discard, it should not go into planting hole.

-Young trees need ample water to establish, generous waterings 2 times a week for the first two months, three if conditions are very dry.

-Always dig hole large enough so that roots are spread out evenly.

-Plant about 1-2 inches lower than old soil mark on tree or shrub.

-Never let exposed roots dry out in sun or wind.

-Apply light feeding of Fruit Tree and Shrub Fertilizer after initial planting, then every 2-3 weeks after that until late August.

-If you are unable to plant right away, make sure roots are soaking in water and in a cool place.

-On any grafted stock, make sure you cut off any suckers (branches from below graft) that start growing. These occur most often on Apple trees, plums and Roses.

PRUNING

Prune to get the desired shape and height or to check vigorous growth. On spring flowering shrubs, pruning should take place after flowering is completed. Non-flowering shrubs should be pruned during dormant period. On older shrubs it is advisable to cut back the older stems to ground level, while cutting the younger more vigorous stems to half their height. In the case of new shrubs, it is sometimes helpful to prune back the top third after planting, this gives the shrubs roots a better start as they have less to feed and thus can root quicker.

BREAKING DORMANCY

We store all our nursery stock in temperature controlled coolers right up until we ship. When you receive your stock it will just be starting to break dormancy. Soaking of stock is essential in getting the stock off to a good start. In some cases stock may be slow to leaf out. If this happens prune back tree or shrub by 1/3 and water heavily for 10 days. This will encourage stock to root and break dormancy.