



How to Plant Your New Tree

DIG a hole just as deep as the root ball and 2-3 times as wide.

PREPARE the tree for planting by removing the soil around the trunk until you reveal the **first structural roots**. If balled and burlapped, cut strings and remove top of burlap first and remove wire frame if present. If in a container, remove the container before planting.

PLACE tree upright in the hole with the trunk flare just above the soil line. The flare is the broadening of the trunk above the first roots. If balled and burlapped, scrunch burlap down around the rootball.

MIX the soil you removed with organic compost for a 50/50 mix. Fill in the hole with amended soil (loosely - do not pack).

WATER by forming a shallow bowl around the rootball's perimeter and filling it with plain water 2 to 3 times.

FERTILIZE with a root stimulator and water mixture. Also, protect from borers by applying an insecticide like **Ferti-lome Systemic Insect Drench**.

MULCH a circle around the tree (4-8 ft diameter) with a two inch layer of bark mulch. Keep mulch three inches from tree trunk.

Your Tree's First Year

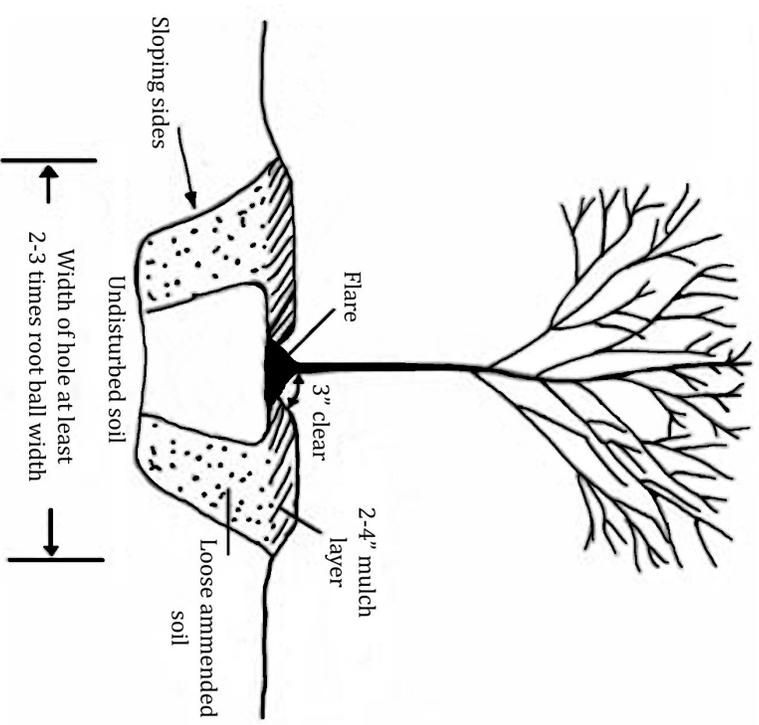
WATER once a week unless you receive at least an inch of slow rainfall. Run a soaker hose at the base of the tree for 2-4 hours.

IMPORTANT: *Improper watering is #1 cause of tree loss - please water carefully.*

WRAP with tree wrap in the fall from the base to the first branch. Overlap the wrap as you go and secure with cotton string or twine. Remove in the spring.

PROTECT your tree with a **DEER GUARD** from early fall until early spring. Deer can significantly damage young trees by rubbing their antlers on the trunk.

Additional care instructions located on the back of this document



Additional Care Options:

STAKING is generally not recommended. Most trees benefit from the natural movement of wind and weather. However, **if your tree was grown in a container** or will be planted on a severe slope, staking may be necessary. Ask the experts at Hoerr Nursery for advice on staking.

PRUNING: Newly planted trees generally need no pruning. Only remove a branch if it is damaged.



How to Care for Your New Tree

MULCH

Add a 2-3 inch layer of bark mulch around the base of the tree (4-8 ft diameter)
Keep mulch 3 inches away from tree trunk.

Mulch rings look nice and help prevent mower and trimmer damage and soil compaction which can cause severe injury to your tree.

WATER (May - Sept)

IMPORTANT: WATER SLOWLY ONCE PER WEEK.

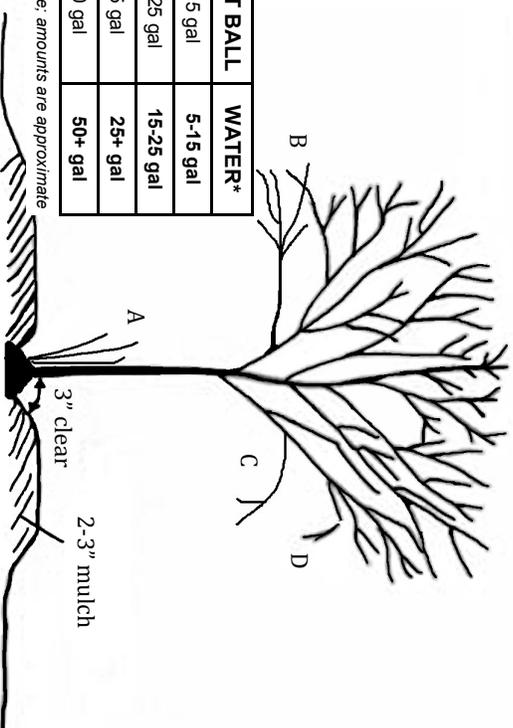
Improper watering is #1 cause of tree loss.

Freshly planted trees need the equivalent of a one-inch rainfall every week**

INSTRUCTIONS: Set a hose to a slow trickle and let it drip for 30 minutes or up to 2 hours based on the size of the tree.

HEIGHT	TRUNK DIA.	ROOT BALL	WATER*
3-6 ft	1-2 in	5-15 gal	5-15 gal
6-10 ft	2-3 in	15-25 gal	15-25 gal
10-15 ft	3-4 in	25 gal	25+ gal
15+ ft	4-5 in	50 gal	50+ gal

*based on root ball size; amounts are approximate



TIP: Time your 'slow trickle' by filling a 5gal bucket and calculate accordingly.

***General watering guidelines for most trees with ideal soil conditions.*

Red Maple varieties, Birch, Baldcypress and Sweet Gum may require twice a week during hot, summer months.

FERTILIZE (Fall)

After the first year, apply granular tree food such as **Ferti-lome Tree & Shrub Food** annually according to label directions.

PROTECT

TREE WRAP (Nov 1 - Apr 1) Minimizes winter freeze damage. Continue annually until tree is about 4in diameter or develops a rough textured bark.

INSECTICIDE (Early Spring) Trees newly planted or trees stressed from heat, drought, or excessive water are susceptible to borers and other insects.

Apply Ferti-lome Tree and Shrub Systemic Insect Drench (imidacloprid)
Follow label instructions. *Unnecessary for evergreens and Baldcypress*

DEER GUARD: (Early Sept - Early Spring) Deer can significantly damage young trees by rubbing antlers on the trunk.

PRUNE

Remove broken, injured or diseased branches throughout the growing season. Major removal of twigs and branches should be done during the dormant season, preferably before active growth begins in the spring.

Prune maple and birch trees during mid-summer.

See diagram above for example pruning cuts:

- Sucker growth
- Rubbing or crossing branches
- Downward growing branches
- Broken or damaged branches



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growing guide

Trees: Health Care Recommendations for All Your Trees



Do

If you own a tree that seems to be languishing, perhaps from minor stresses, it may need a boost to be revitalized. Before treating the tree, ask a horticulturalist to diagnose and make recommendations for you. If a jump start is recommended, here are some suggested steps:

Mulch

Scrape off any turf around the tree to at least a 3 to 4 foot diameter ring, larger for bigger trees. Mulch the area with an organic material such as shredded hardwood bark, cedar or cypress mulch to a depth of 2 to 3". Leave a 2" bare soil gap around the trunk. Aerate the mulch every few months by gently fluffing or turning it over. Check annually to maintain the depth.

Water

Water is crucial to your tree's health, but keep in mind that more plants suffer from too much water rather than too little. The first step is to know your soil. Heavy clay soils hold water, so less frequent watering is required. By contrast loose sandy soil drains readily. Check the soil around the tree before watering. Dig your finger or a trowel down to see if the soil is dry.

Next, observe your plant. If the leaves wilt and respond to water, water more often. If wilt occurs or the leaves turn lighter green and do not recover after watering, then you are watering too much. Reduce irrigation and let the soil dry down. Generally speaking a tree that has been in its location for two years or more, will not require any extra watering except in times of drought.

Protect

Tree wrap offers protection from frost crack and pests, and is especially important for smooth-barked trees less than 4" in diameter, and trees of any size and type in their new location less than three years. In late November, wrap the trunk with tree wrap. Starting at the bottom, stretch and wrap the material tightly around and over itself, winding up the trunk to the first set of limbs. Be generous with the overlap. Cut the wrap, tuck in the end and secure with tape or twine. Remove the wrap in the spring.

To help prevent borers from damaging a new or unhealthy tree, apply **Bayer Advanced Garden™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control**. One application of this liquid insecticide provides a **year of control** over borers, aphids, Japanese beetles, sawflies, thrips and whiteflies. Simply add the required amount to water and slowly pour the solution evenly around the tree or shrub, as close to the trunk or main stem as possible.

Be careful when mowing around trees to avoid damaging the trunk with the mower or the trimmer. Surprisingly, a tree can die from damage sustained when trimmers whip the trunk.

Also, be careful to avoid compacting the soil with heavy equipment when doing construction or remodeling work. Even heavy lawn mowers can compact the soil. Mulching around a tree will minimize the necessity to mow near the trunk.

Appropriate pruning and trimming can protect a tree from wind or weather damage. For example, trim out diseased or dead areas, or crossed branches.

Feed

Fertilize the tree two times per year with **Fertilome Tree & Shrub Food**. Apply fertilizer once between the beginning of March and mid-April, or about 4 to 6 weeks before the buds break. Fertilize again in the fall, between Labor Day and when the soil freezes. After fertilizing, water heavily to dilute the concentration and move it into the root zone.

Don't combine fall fertilizing with fall pruning. When fertilizing in the fall, prune in late winter or early spring. Remove dead wood at any time.



Hoerr Nursery
8020 N. Shade Tree Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615
309/691-4561
FAX 309/691-1834
www.HoerrNursery.com



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growing guide

Trees: Apple

The apple trees we offer are Stark Bro's dwarf trees, maturing at about 8-10' tall and equally wide, but bearing loads of full-sized fruit.

Pruning, spraying and harvesting is very easy with dwarf trees.

You'll probably see a small quantity of fruit the second year after planting with heavy production beginning the fourth year and continuing for another fifteen years or so.

All that is required is full sun in a well-drained location in regular garden soil. In fact the soil doesn't have to be particularly rich; most fruit trees do very well in soil that is a little rocky or gravelly. Avoid soils that are dense clay. If that is the soil you have at your site, you can enrich

a side deep area with compost, manure, or other organic material. Talk to an expert at Hoerr Nursery for tips on enriching you soil . See the Growing Guide for Planting Trees for more details on preparing your site for your new tree.

With the dwarf trees you certainly don't need much area. We remind people that if you have space for a rose, you probably have room for a dwarf apple tree.

Plus there is a thrill of eating fresh fruit from your own trees!

If you need any further apple information, see an expert at Hoerr Nursery.



Apples Name	A Little About It	Pollination Requirements
Dwarf Braeburn Apple	An improved McIntosh with even more fruiting spurs. That means more tart, crisp apples with that distinctive, full, rich McIntosh flavor.	Requires 'Fuji', 'Royal Gala' or 'Honeycrisp' for pollination.
Dwarf Candy Crisp Apple	Similar to a pear, this apple is very sweet and juicy. Golden yellow color with a pink blush.	Pollinator for 'Honeycrisp'
Dwarf Honeycrisp Apple	Imagine the crackling tart flavor of a Jonathan & the sweet taste of Golden Delicious in one apple! Chosen as one of the two most preferred dessert apples in the world. ('Red Fuji' is the other.)	Requires 'Fuji' or 'Royal Gala' or 'Honeycrisp' for pollination.
Dwarf Royal Gala Apple	An early ripening favorite. Smooth, green-skinned fruits with a sweet-tart, crisp flesh are ready about mid-July.	Requires 'Fuji' or 'Honeycrisp' for pollination.
Dwarf Stark Golden Delicious Apple	Discovered by Paul Stark in the backwoods of West Virginia in 1914, this world famous apple produces big, golden fruit with that juicy, sweet flavor & classic Delicious crisp, white texture. This cultivar actually produces up to three sets of flowers each spring resulting in an early October harvest of as much as five bushels from dwarf trees.	Self pollinating
Dwarf Starkrimson® Red Delicious Apple	The most popular Red Delicious of all! Perfectly shaped, sweet, plump, bright red apples from a very rugged, easy to grow tree. Can't eat them all? These apples keep their tree-ripe flavor for months.	Requires 'Dwarf Stark Golden Delicious' or 'Dwarf Stark Jon-A-Red' for pollination.
Dwarf Stark Red Fuji Apple	Much like Red Delicious, these sweet apples keep their 'just picked' flavor for a whole year when refrigerated. Popular with professional orchards.	Requires 'Granny Smith' or 'Stark Royal Gala' for pollination.

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Trees: Fast Growing Trees

"What's a fast growing shade tree?" is one of the most frequently asked questions we hear. But what does 'fast growing' mean in the realm of trees? Our attempts to neatly categorize plant characteristics is inherently too general, but we usually define 'fast growth' as approximately 2 or more feet per year in 'normal' conditions. (There are trees that grow even faster of course but what is gained in growth is lost in structural integrity. You'll find none of those recommended here.) Of course, you can often increase the growth rate and improve the overall health of trees by watering during dry spells, mulching, and eliminating competition from turf.

Soil types also play a key role in your tree's growth rate. (Be sure to follow our Successful Tree Planting Growing Guide to ensure your tree gets off to a good start.) Trees planted in heavy, compacted clay will usually not achieve their potential while those in a rich, organic garden loam may over achieve. Loose, sandy soil is fine, too as long as you water when needed and add organic matter at planting and as a mulch.

Know the ultimate size of your tree so you don't plant too close to your house or other structures. Don't plant directly over underground utilities or septic field tiles, either. The roots of trees won't damage anything underground as is often thought but when the time comes for maintaining the lines the tree will suffer for it.

And **please** don't plant large trees under overhead wires. You don't want your utility company butchering your investment a few years from now.

Even with faster-growing trees, some patience and care is needed before you will benefit from shade. Generally, a 2" diameter tree provides reasonable shade in ten years. This may seem like a long time until you consider the life span of your tree is 60 to 100+ years.

In the following lists those trees marked with an "*" are usually classified as 'medium' growers, between 12" and 24" inches per year, but can be pushed into a faster rate.

Learn about our most popular shade & flowering trees. 

Ornamental Trees	These trees usually top out at under 40'
Amur Chokecherry	
Crabapples	all varieties
Cherry	Canada Red, Kwanzan, Sargent, Weeping Higan
Eastern Redbud*	
Hawthorn	Thornless Cockspur, Washington, Winter King
Pear	Autumn Blaze Callery*, Cleveland Select Callery*, Redspire Callery*, Trinity Callery*
Plum	Newport, Armstrong Red*, Red Sunset Red
Shade Trees	Trees in this category mature at approximately 40' or taller
Green Ash	Marshall Seedless Green, Patmore Green, Summit Green
White Ash	Autumn Purple White*, Autumn Applause White*
Baldcypress*	
Birch	River, Heritage River, Japanese Whitespire
Honeylocust	Imperial, Skyline, Sunburst
Linden	Corinthian Legend American*, Redmond American* Greenspire Littleleaf*, Sterling Silver*
Maple	Autumn Blaze Freeman's, Norwegian Sunset* Emerald Lustre Norway*, Emerald Queen Norway* Jade Glen Norway*, Parkway Norway* Summershade Norway, Red (Scarlet) Silver Queen Silver
Planetree	Bloodgood London
Sweetgum*	
Tuliptree	
Weeping Willow	Niobe Golden Weeping Willow

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growing guide

Trees: Health Care Recommendation for All Your Trees

Preventative maintenance is a wise investment for ongoing care for all your trees. Healthy trees can better withstand challenging situations than stressed trees.

The techniques described here will not prevent or cure damage from all risks. But these techniques can minimize the impact of many conditions, such as droughts or most insect infestations, which can make your trees vulnerable.

Watering

Trees should be watered monthly in a drought. New trees should be watered weekly to get established. The watering should be done with a slow stream of water over a period of 6 – 8 hours. It shouldn't run off, but be absorbed into the soil around the tree.

Fertilizing

Trees should be fertilized in the fall. (See Hoerr Nursery experts for specific details on products and quantities.)

Everyday Hazards

Be careful when mowing around trees to avoid damaging the trunk with the mower or the trimmer. Surprisingly, damage from trimmers whipping the trunk of a tree can kill it.

Additionally, be careful when doing construction or remodeling work to avoid compacting the soil with heavy equipment. Even heavy lawn mowers can compact the soil. Mulching around a tree may minimize the necessity to mow so close to the trunk.

Mulching

Mulching at the base of a tree can be very effective for minimizing weeds, allowing water to soak in, and (as mentioned above) minimizing compaction of the soil. Proper techniques should be followed when

applying mulch. Too much can create a perfect environment for insects and small mammals to nest in and munch on the base of the tree.

Pruning and Trimming

Appropriate pruning and trimming can help minimize areas in a tree where it may become especially susceptible to wind or weather damage. For example, trimming out diseased or dead areas, or crossed branches are good steps. For more on Pruning see the Growing Guide.

"It is a good idea to pay attention to your trees. If they are showing signs of illness or stress, you may email or visit Hoerr Nursery and we will discuss the symptoms with you and help you diagnose the problem. Trees are so valuable to all of us, not only for their beauty but also for their contribution to the environment. A healthy, mature tree is virtually priceless" said Dave Ploussard, Garden Center Manager, Horticulturist and Certified Arborist.



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Trees: How to Plant & Ongoing Care

Get off on the right foot:

Dig the correct hole.

Don't dig any deeper than the original nursery container or the root ball, but always make a tapering hole about twice as wide. (Digging deeper could cause settling and create major problems.) Mix in enough organic matter with your native soil until you obtain a 50-50 mix.

If the plant is in a plastic container, gently but firmly grasp it at the soil line and remove it. Peat pots or other plantable containers should have the lip around the top cut or torn off and be scored down the sides in two or three places. On balled & burlapped material, it is not necessary to completely remove the burlap. Instead position the plant, level it, and backfill a bit to stabilize. Cut the strings, remove any nails pinning the burlap and with your hands or a shovel, scrunch the burlap down around the ball. The burlap rots and roots grow through it. If any burlap is left exposed to the atmosphere after planting, it can act as wick on hot, windy days and pull moisture away from the root system. Some larger plants are contained in a wire basket. There is no need to remove it. Set the plant so that ground level is the same as in the container or root ball. Backfill with the amended soil and water well with Ferti-lome Root Stimulator. Some settling will probably occur around the edge, add more soil and firm it in. Don't pack it. Use the remaining soil to form a shallow bowl around the perimeter of the hole and fill the basin with plain water.

Mulching

Make a minimum 4 – 8 foot diameter circle, and mulch with a 2" layer of bark mulch. Keep the mulch at least 2 – 3 inches away from the trunk to keep the trunk wood dry and deter burrowing rodents.

Water

Water once each week unless you receive at least an inch of slow rainfall. Watering too often can be more of a problem than too seldom. Red Maple varieties, Birch, Bald Cypress and Sweet Gum may require watering twice a week during hot weather.

You may use a soaker hose for 2 – 4 hours per week to slowly trickle water into the area around the base of the tree. It is critical, for establishment, to continue watering during July and August.

Tree Wrap

Until the tree is about 6 inches in diameter or develops a rough textured bark, we recommend that you wrap your tree with tree wrap from November 1 through April 1 each year to minimize winter damage.

Purchase tree wrap at **Hoerr Nursery** and encircle the tree with a continuous piece of tree wrap from the base up to the first branch. Tie off the wrap with degradable twine or cotton string. You will remove the wrap each year, but in case you forget, the degradable tie will disintegrate and fall off - which is important or else the tie may strangle the tree.

Staking

As a general rule, we do not recommend staking trees. Normally, trees benefit from the natural movement of wind and weather. If you are planting on a severe slope, or are planting a "container" tree, please ask us about staking. We have staking kits for sale at Hoerr Nursery.

Insecticide

Newly planted trees and trees stressed from heat, drought, excessive water, restricted roots or other factors are susceptible to borers and other insects. There is now a new insecticide product available for a single application in early May for control of a variety of insects. Bayer Tree and Shrub Insect Control (Imidacloprid) can be applied around the base of the tree for season-long control. This applies to all trees except bald cypress & evergreens. Follow printed label directions. Call us for further help or advice if tree problems occur.

Fertilizing

The first season, use root stimulator according to directions, using a 10 – 20 gallon solution of water every two to three weeks during June, July and August. After the first season, we recommend granular Ferti-lome Tree and Shrub Food.

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Critter Control

Expect deer and rabbit damage no matter where you live. The best protection outside of a 10' high double mesh fence is Ferti-lome. This One Works for discouraging deer and Rope! for deterring deer, rabbits and many other nuisance animals. These products do not hurt the critters but they leave an atrocious taste in their mouths.

Pruning

Newly planted trees and shrubs generally require no pruning; the plant needs all the reserves in its branches to establish quickly in your landscape. Of course, broken or damaged limbs should be removed and minor shaping is fine. The ideal pruning time varies with the plant. As a rule don't prune from August through mid-October. Late summer pruning can induce new growth that won't have time to harden off before winter.

Rule of Thumb: The best time to prune is when your shears are sharp. The point is that most people under prune. But the ideal time to prune flowering shrubs is after the show over, when the flowers are no longer ornamental.

So prune spring flowering shrubs such as Forsythia, Flowering Almond Viburnum, etc., after the spring show. Prune summer flowering shrubs such as the Dwarf Pink Spirea group, Potentilla, Rose of Sharon, Smokebush, etc., in the spring or after the show, just don't prune too late in the year.

Should I Stake My Trees?

Usually, no. Wind is part of Nature's wondrous design. The gentle swaying of trees stimulates the demand for calcium and strengthens the plant. However if yours is a particularly windy location or the tree you installed is disproportionately top-heavy in relation to the ball, one loosely fitted support on the southwest side is often enough to keep the tree straight.

*Thank You,
Ken Downing
Nursery Division Manager*





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growing guide

Trees: Peach

Growing your own fresh fruit is easy and you get the fun of harvesting and eating fruit fresh off the tree!

All the cold-hardy Stark Bro's peach trees we offer are self-pollinating, you only need one tree to enjoy your own fresh, juicy peaches.

They are also all dwarf trees, reaching only about 8-10' tall and 8' wide at maturity. They may be small but their fruit is full-sized and they start bearing the second year after planting with heavy production beginning the fourth season. Peaches are easy to grow, too. All they need is a well-drained spot in full sun. If your garden is heavy clay amend the planting hole with ½ mushroom compost or peat moss to the native soil.

One of the best ways to ensure a healthy tree is to fertilize it annually in spring; mulch it three-inches deep with shredded bark; and water it during dry periods. This will not only help to protect against borers but it will provide bountiful harvest.

It is suggested that a new peach, apricot, or nectarine tree be planted every 5 to 7 years to provide uninterrupted yields. 10 to 12 years is usually the maximum life for one of these trees in Central Illinois. Cherries and plums have a longer life span.

The term "freestone" means the flesh pulls away easily from the pit when the peach is fully ripe.

Dwarf Burbank July Elberta Peach

Stark Bro's considers this their best overall peach! It has the smallest pit-to-fruit ratio of any peach tree, is extremely sweet and gorgeous - bright red with golden yellow flesh - and is beautiful, too. In the spring the rose-red blossoms fill the air with their perfume. Freestone, ripening early August.

Dwarf Reliance Peach

The best peach for hardiness in this area. The freestone golden fruit has a red blush that's great for canning. These medium to large fruits begin to ripen in mid-August.

Borers and Peach Trees

An amber-colored, gummy exudation mixed with sawdust on your peach or cherry tree signals that you have a borer. The most destructive pest of the peach family is the Greater Peach Tree Borer, followed closely by the Lesser Peach Tree Borer. The peach family, Prunus, includes cherry, apricot, plum, Purpleleaf Sandcherry, Flowering Almond, and Nectarine. If you have any of these you should consider control.

The Greater Peach Tree Borer will be found at the

soil line or just below. Look for the Lesser Peach Tree Borer on the trunk or lower branches; it is more commonly found in the crotches or trunk wounds. These boring "worms" feed on the growing tissue called cambium and inner bark. Early signs appear as yellowing or sparse leaves on one or more branches and stunted growth, especially on younger trees. The Greater Peach Tree Borer favors younger trees while the Lesser Peach Tree Borer prefers older trees, though a tree of any age is susceptible to both.

Development

The adults, clear-winged moths, emerge from pupation in late spring with the Lesser Peach Tree Borer appearing a month earlier than the other borer. Both overlap their egg-laying and hatching which occurs over a long period in the summer. Eggs are laid in bark cracks and crevices or old wounds. After hatching, the larvae begin boring and feeding. This is the most easily controlled stage. Once the larva is in the tree control is nearly impossible. Over the winter the borer lives within the tree.

Control

Recommendations for timing vary though it is wise to arrange your timings to control both. To do this, plan to begin spraying when Mockorange begins to flower and Bridalwreath Spirea is about done, usually late May, early June. Continue spraying at three-week to monthly intervals through mid-August. Use Hi Yield Dursban insecticide, spraying it to thoroughly wet the bark from the lower branches to the soil line; coverage must include the undersides of the limbs, crotches, and the complete trunk.

Another method to aid in control of only the Greater Peach Tree Borer is to use Ferti-lome's Tree Borer Crystals. Level the soil around the trunk base, removing all grass. Any gummosis that is present should be removed. Apply the crystal in a ring around the tree staying one-inch from the tree and no farther than three inches. Cover the crystals with six inches of mounded soil and tamp with the back of the spade. Do this in early October and remove the crystals and soil in four weeks. This control is not suggested for young trees during hot weather, or when the soil temperatures are below 60°F. For a one year tree use 1/4 oz.; two year tree requires 1/4 to 1/2 oz.; 3 to 5 year tree will need 3/4 oz.; and 6+ years use 1 to 1 1/2 oz..

Unfortunately, no peach tree is safe against the borer without the above measures and there are no biological controls for the pest.

If you need any further information, we're here to help. 

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Hoerr Nursery
8020 N. Shade Tree Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615
309/691-4561
FAX 309/691-1834
www.HoerrNursery.com

Trees: Small Trees for Your Landscape

Here are some smaller trees that we think deserve more attention than they are given. And, remember, you can plant a tree any time that the ground is not frozen.

Acer griseum, Paperbark Maple. While being a bit slow growing, this tree is absolutely spectacular when full size. This tree is not fussy about soils in this area, nor does it have many pests or diseases that frequent it. Possesses clean, dark green foliage that turns orange, and occasionally red in the fall. Not to mention its peeling shiny bronze-cinnamon colored bark. Shapes on individual trees vary "tree"-mendously, pick your favorite! Reaches only 20 to 30 feet high by 10 to 20 feet wide. A very unknown but classy tree that is one of our favorites! (zone 5). Two specimens of this tree currently reside out in front of our store.

Acer pseudoboldianum, Korean Maple. This small tree reaches no more than about 15' high. The Korean maple is an excellent replacement for the Japanese maple as its foliage is very similar to a full moon maple, but it is much more cold hardy (zone 4). Fall colors yellow to scarlet orange.

Aesculus carnea, Red Horsechestnut. While popular in Europe, this tree is seldom seen in America. Reaches about 30 feet by 30 feet with a rounded crown, flowers beautifully with rose pink blooms. Leaves are large and a lustrous dark green color. Be patient this tree can be slow to establish. (zone 4)

Serviceberry, ***Amelanchier x grandiflora***, Autumn Brilliance. While gaining some popularity this

tree is still a relatively unknown beauty. Serviceberry is a tree for all seasons; its bark is smooth and has a "snakebark" pattern to it. It flowers profusely in early spring, just before the redbuds do. It produces abundant sweet fruit that attracts birds and hungry horticulturists (makes a GREAT pie), and its blue green foliage turns orange-red in the fall. It pulls all of this off without being plagued by disease, or fussy about soil. This tree is native to our area and is great to naturalize with redbuds, reaches 20 to 25 feet tall by 15 to 20 ft wide. (zone 4).

Chioanthus virginicus, White Fringe Tree. This plant is one of those specimens that seems to be undecided as to if it wants to be a tree or a large bush. Regardless of its indecision, it flowers with beautiful soft fleecy white flowers in spring. Large grape-like fruit ripens in late summer and is relished by birds. Reaches 8 to 20 feet tall and wide, native to the U.S. (zone 4).

Cledastras lutea, American Yellowwood. A wonderful but underused native tree. Yellowwood has very few diseases. Yellowwood grows 30 to 40 feet high and wide, and makes a great small tree for a backyard garden. Yellowwood blooms only once every two to three years, but rewards its caretakers with a spectacular show of fragrant pendulous pea-flower shaped blossoms. Yellowwood has very clean bright green foliage that turns an incredible gold color in the fall. This tree also has very smooth wrinkled bark somewhat similar to a beech (*Fagus* spp.). For a better look at this tree check out the 30 ft. specimen along our drive!





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growing guide

Trees: Shade Trees with Fall Color

Shade Trees with Fall Color

We group deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves) into two broad categories:

1) Shade Trees & 2) Flowering Trees.

Shade Trees, according to a widely accepted definition, reach heights of over 40'; Flowering Trees mature at less than that. There is a great deal of overlap in the categories since many *shade* trees also flower, and, a 30' *flowering* tree provides shade.

The guidelines were designated to help you focus on the *primary purpose* you have in mind for this tree: shade and possibly fall color ? OR spring flowers, spring color and possibly fragrance? If you select a tree to meet your primary purpose any additional assets are an extra gift.

Here are fall colors that Shade Trees usually attain in Central Illinois. Remember that nature is unpredictable: what colors brilliant red one year may be a green or brown the next. 

Shade Trees with Red Fall Color

<i>Plant Name</i>	<i>Color/Description</i>
Red Oak	Brilliant maroon to burnished red
Black Gum, Sour Gum, Tupelo	Usually a fluorescent scarlet but can be yellow, orange, or purple. One of the best!
Red Sunset Red Maple	Consistently bright red to orange-red Autumn Blaze Maple an unusual brick-orange. Very Striking! Scarlet Oak-Scarlet to russet red. One of the last trees to color.
Sugar Maple	Red to orange to yellow, impossible to pigeonhole but always beautiful.
Pacific Sunset Maple	Red to yellow-orange
White Oak	Dull red to russet
Pin Oak	Dull red to russet
Swamp White Oak	Crimson red shades

Shade Trees with Copper Fall Color

<i>Plant Name</i>	<i>Color/Description</i>
European Beech cv.	Rich golden bronze to copper
American Beech	Golden bronze to copper
Bald Cypress	Very attractive bronzy-copper

Shade Trees with Multiple Fall Color

<i>Plant Name</i>	<i>Color/Description</i>
Sweet Gum	Yellow, scarlet, & purple-green

Hoerr Nursery
8020 N. Shade Tree Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615
309/691-4561
FAX309/691-1834
www.HoerrNursery.com

Shade Trees with Yellow Fall Color

<i>Plant Name</i>	<i>Color/Description</i>
Birch	Species & Cultivars golden yellow Green Ash cv.
Honey locust	Bright yellow
Silver Queen Silver Maple	Yellow-Green
Ohio buckeye	Yellow to russet to pumpkin orange
Yellowwood	Yellow to golden yellow Norway Maple Golden yellow
Turkish Filbert	Usually yellow but can change to purple in some years
Kentucky Coffee Tree	Strong yellow Ginkgo Bright, clear yellow
Larch	Tamarack Ochre yellow
Tulip tree	Golden yellow to yellow
Amur Cork tree	Yellowish, won't turn any heads
Swamp White Oak	Yellow-russet
Niobe	Weeping Willow Golden yellow American Linden cv. Brownish-yellow little leaf Linden yellow
Sterling Silver Linden	Yellowish, attractive in a good year
Korean Mountain ash	Very bright yellow, orange, & golden-brown. Very eye-catching with the red fruit clusters.
Upright European Hornbeam	Clear, golden yellow to orange-red



Quite Simply. Amazing.

growing guide

Trees: Restoring a Tree's Health

If you own a tree that seems to be languishing, perhaps from minor stresses in its life, it could just need a 'boost' to get revitalized.

But before you do anything, have the problem professionally diagnosed by an expert at Hoerr Nursery to make certain you're doing the right thing, at the right time. If a jump start is recommended here are the steps we suggest.

Scrape off any turf around the tree to at least a 3-4' diameter ring, larger for bigger trees. Mulch the area with an organic material such as shredded hardwood bark, cedar or cypress mulch to a depth of 2-3". Leave a 2" bare soil gap around the trunk. Every few months aerate the mulch by gently fluffing or turning it over. Check annually to maintain the depth.

Water is crucial to your tree's health but more plants are lost to too much than too little. The first step is to know your soil. Heavy clay soils hold water, so less frequent watering is required. By contrast loose sandy soil drains readily. Water as needed. Check the soil around the tree before watering. Dig your finger or a trowel down to see if the soil is dry.

Next, observe your plant. If the leaves wilt and respond to water, water more often. If wilt occurs and/or the leaves turn lighter green and do not recover after watering, then you are watering too much. Reduce irrigation and let the soil dry down.

Generally speaking an established tree, one that has been in its location for two years or more, will not require any extra watering except in times of drought.

Around Thanksgiving wrap the trunk with tree wrap. Starting at the bottom stretch and wrap the material tightly around and over itself, winding up the trunk to the first set of limbs. Be generous with the overlap. Cut, tuck in the end and secure with tape or twine. Remove the wrap in the spring. Tree wrap offers protection from frost crack and critters, and is especially important for smooth-barked trees less than 4" in diameter, and trees of any size and type in their new location less than three years.

To help prevent borers on newly planted trees or those you are nursing back to health, we recommend **Bayer Advanced Garden™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control**. One application of this liquid insecticide provides **12 month control** of borers, aphids, Japanese beetles, sawflies and even scale, thrips and whiteflies. And it is extremely easy to apply. Simply add the required amount (1 ounce per inch of trunk circumference) to water and slowly pour the solution evenly around the tree or shrub, as close to the trunk or main stem as possible. No spraying, no complicated mixing and no repeat applications. Any newly installed tree or tree coping with adverse environmental conditions is a potential borer target.

Fertilize the tree two times per year with **Fertilome Tree & Shrub Food**. Once in the late winter-early spring, March 1 to mid-April, or about 4 to 6 weeks before the buds break. Fertilize again in the fall from Labor Day until the soil freezes. After fertilizing, water heavily to dilute the concentration and move it into the root zone.

Don't combine fall fertilizing with fall pruning. When fertilizing in the fall, prune in late winter or early spring. Remove dead wood at any time.



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