

# Watering Guide



Plan to take your plants home when you can plant them immediately. Plants that are out of the ground and in their original containers or root balls must be watered **DAILY**, and should ideally be kept out of direct sunlight. The watering schedule below is for plants that have been planted.

## How to water

Do not turn a hose on your plants at full force! This will only wet the top part of the soil before most of the water runs off. The best way to water is to slowly, on a low trickle, for 20-30 minutes. This can be achieved with a regular hose left on low volume, a soaker hose, or a sprinkler.

*Pay attention to rainfall! Drought can happen at any time of year, as we've seen. Too much water isn't good for plants either, and you'll want to adjust or hold off on watering accordingly.*

- If we get a steady soaking rain that lasts for more than an hour, substitute that for **at least one** of your weekly waterings. Plants should be allowed to dry out between waterings, so you should occasionally move the mulch aside and check the moisture level of the soil even when manually watering. If we get a lot of rainfall and the weather is overcast, you might not need to water at all that week- just check the soil! To develop a healthy root system, plants shouldn't be constantly wet; roots grow when they seek water.
- Conversely, during a drought or stretch of extreme heat you may need to water daily if the soil is completely drying out. Keep in mind that heat uncharacteristic to our zone will have an adverse effect on plants even if they are receiving the proper amount of water.

<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>
<i>Nights are cool; usually regular rainfall</i>	<i>Warm nights; hot days; less reliable rainfall</i>	<i>Nights are cool again; rain may be sparse</i>	<i>Deciduous plants have defoliated, plants are dormant</i>
2x per week, 20-30 minutes	3x per week, 30 minutes	2x per week, 20-30 minutes	Only water evergreens during long warm spells

Pay attention to **temperatures** and **the weather** more than hard dates for the seasons!

## Additional Maintenance

We add an all-purpose 14-14-14 fertilizer when we plant, but it is not necessary to fertilize in the first year. An all-purpose fertilizer can be applied the following spring, or our staff can make more specific recommendations for individual plants. When we plant, we use only the soil from the hole for backfill, and recommend that you do the same. You may choose to amend the soil when you plant, but we recommend adding minimal amendments and always mixing them well with the native soil. As the roots develop they will ultimately be growing in your soil, not just the amended area, and it's important for the plant to acclimate to this environment.

Most plants will require pruning. Ask a sales associate for advice on your specific plants.

# Our Warranty

When you plant: **2-month warranty** from the date you take the plant home. Plants must be planted in the ground- we do not warranty plants left in their original containers, or anything planted in a pot. Plants must be watered according to the watering guide. There is no warranty on houseplants, tropicals, or annuals.

When we plant: **1 year warranty** from the date of installation. Plants must be watered according to the watering guide.

Email [gardencenter@jandjscaping.com](mailto:gardencenter@jandjscaping.com) or bring in a picture of any plant you're concerned about.

- We guarantee all of our plants to be inspected by the US Department of Agriculture and to be free from pests and disease at the time of purchase/installation.
- Our warranty covers a one-time replacement.
- We don't warranty other contractors' work. If you plan to have your landscaper plant for you, ask them about their warranty policy.
- We don't warranty against deer damage or any other physical damage to the plant. We **strongly recommend** tree wrap to protect all trees under 6" in caliper from August to February, during deer rutting season. While we can make recommendations about plants that we have found to be *deer resistant*, we do not guarantee that any plant is *deer proof*.
- A replacement of the same plant will be provided for you to take home (if you planted) or for us to install (if we planted). You can also choose to take store credit in the amount you paid for the plant to apply towards the purchase of a different item. \*\*Any plants purchased at discounts of 40% or higher will be replaced in the form of store credit\*\*
- We do not issue credit for planting labor, as this is a physical service involving time and labor that isn't refundable. If you decide to use a replacement credit towards a different type of tree or shrub, we will install the replacement free of charge (if it is the same size).

Perennials: Planting is generally offered for Trees and Shrubs only; we will install perennials if they are part of a larger planting job. We warranty perennials at an **80% return rate**.

## How To Plant

**Containers:** Dig a hole twice as wide and not quite as deep as the container size- a few inches of the root mass should remain above ground level. Break up the roots lightly- this can be done by hand or by 'scoring' the sides of the roots with pruners. Place the plant in the hole, backfill it, and compact the soil very well around the roots. Mulch around the part that is above grade, and water well.

**Ball & burlap:** Dig a hole twice as wide and not quite as deep as the root ball- a few inches of the root ball should remain above ground level. Place the root ball in the hole and then cut twine and burlap away from the trunk. Peel the burlap back to the edges of the root ball but do not remove it entirely. Do not remove any wire cages. Backfill the hole and compact the soil very well around the root ball. Mulch around the part that is above grade, but do not mound mulch against any part of a tree trunk. Stake trees if they are planted in windy areas, and water well.