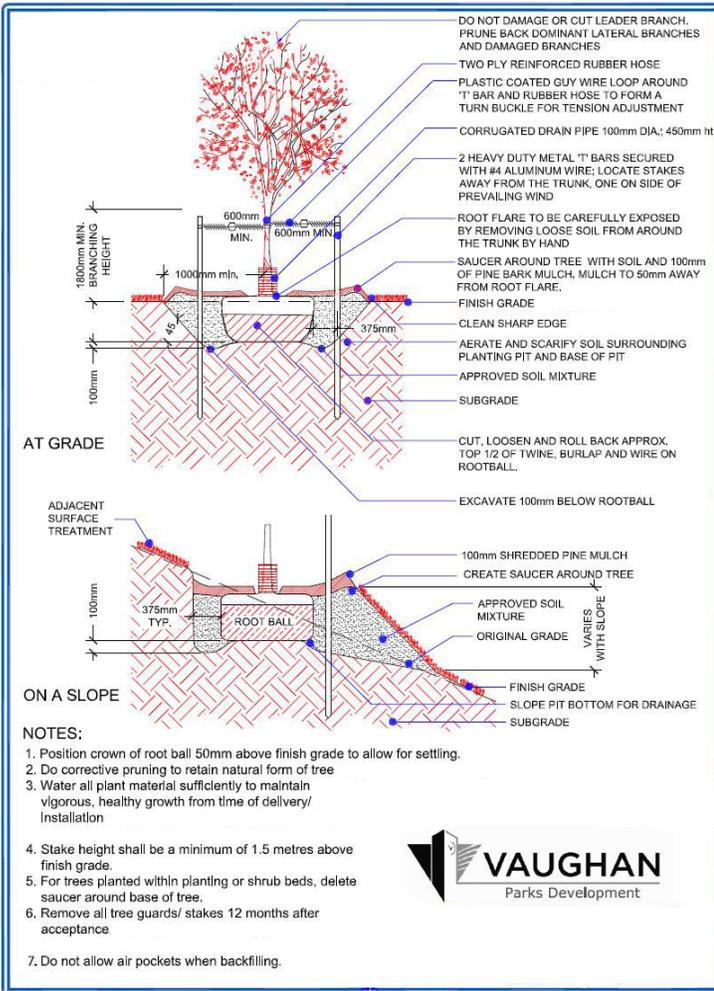


# TREE PLANTING

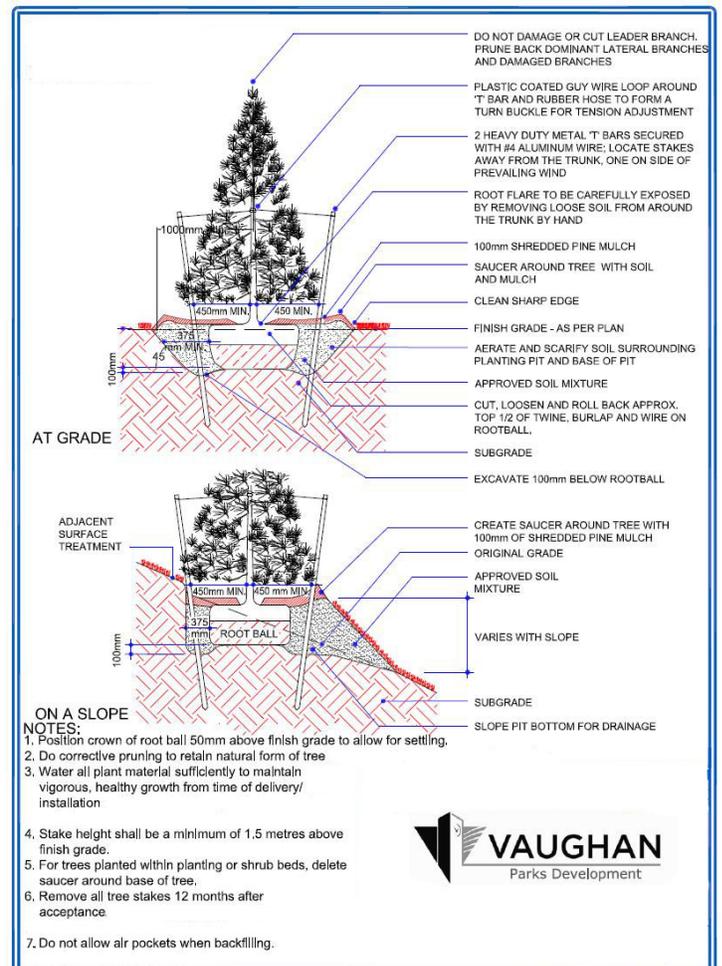
## How to Plant Your New Tree



1. Select the right tree for the right place. Proper tree planting begins with planning. To see a list of trees planted by the Forestry Department please click [here](#). It is advisable to consult a professional to determine the best species suitable for your property. LEAF is a non-profit organization that has a private property tree planting program available to residents within Toronto and York Region. For more information on their planting program, click [here](#).

2. Prepare a planting area as deep as the rootball and 2-5 times wider than the rootball diameter by loosening the soil. Dig a hole in the middle of the area and set the rootball even with the ground level.

3. The bottom of the rootball should rest on solid undisturbed soil. This prevents settling.



4. Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven.

5. Place the tree in the hole. If the tree is in a container, remove the container. Place the rootball in the centre of the hole and adjust the tree so it is straight and at the proper level.

Note: Do not bury the trunk. It should be planted at the same level as the surface of the ground or slightly higher if possible.

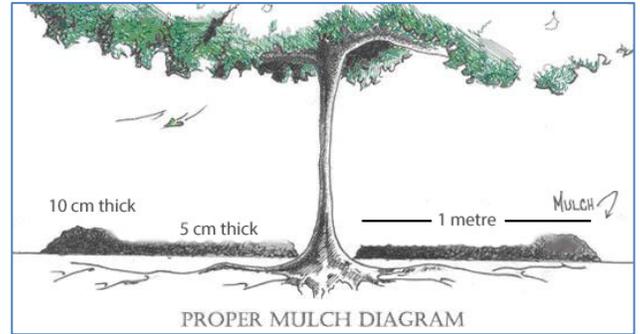
6. Backfill with the original soil. Tamp gently with your foot to firm up the soil. Apply clean water to settle the soil and remove air pockets. Repeat this process until the hole is filled and the soil is firm and can support the tree upright.

**DO NOT MIX FERTILIZER, COMPOST OR OTHER MATERIALS WITH THE ORIGINAL SOIL.**



7. Cover the entire loosened area of soil at least 50 centimeters from the main stem at a thickness of 5 cm 2/3 of the radius and 10 cm for the edge adding up to a radius of 1 metre- see diagram. The mulch will reduce competition from weeds and grasses, moderate soil temperature and provide nutrients as the mulch decomposes.

8. Once you have planted your tree, it is imperative that you water your tree regularly during dry periods for at least two growing seasons in order to help the tree establish its root system.



For tips on how to best water your tree, click [here](#).

### **Tree Care of Your Newly Planted Tree**

Monitor your tree for insect and disease problems, dead or broken limbs, or scars from cutting grass too close to the base of the tree.

Regular watering is important. New trees need about 5-10 gallons of water per week for about two years if the rainfall is low. Do not drown trees by over watering. For tips on how to best water your tree, click [here](#).

Do not apply fertilizer at time of planting. Sprinkle a balance fertilizer over the planting area the following spring. Too much fertilizer will injure the tree.

**Always follow the manufacturers directions or contact a local Arborist for proper diagnosis.**

Make sure your newly planted tree has mulch to assist in growth. Keep the mulch away from the base of the trunk to prevent moisture and rot.

Prune only dead, damaged, diseased, or crossed or rubbing branches.

Never prune tree near power lines. Contact a local Arborist for this service.