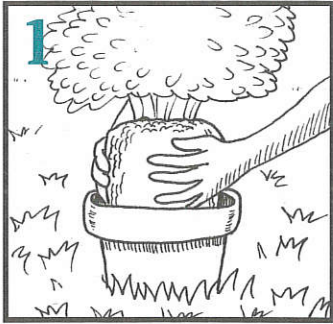
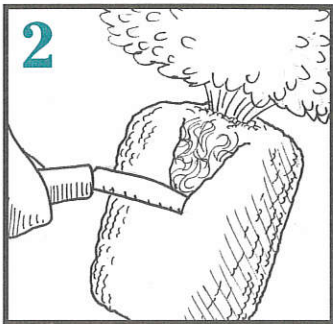


## Planting Instructions: Container Materials

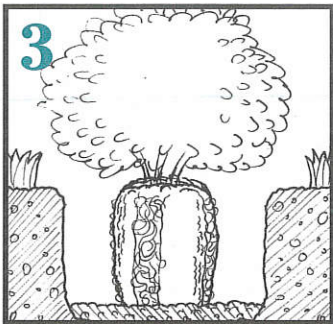
Follow these simple instructions to help improve your chances of success when transplanting any potted or “containerized” material. Plants grown in containers have a high chance of survival, as they are in tact with their entire root structure in place. **Remember to thoroughly water your new plant or tree every day until you are ready to plant it.**



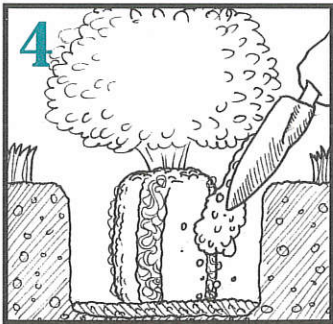
**1** Remove plants from containers by laying the container on the ground, and applying pressure to the side of the container. NEVER carry or pull on a plant in attempt to remove it from its container. If the container is stubborn, it may be necessary to cut the container from the plant. If you find a solidly packed mass of roots—a good and a bad thing—then those roots will need your help...



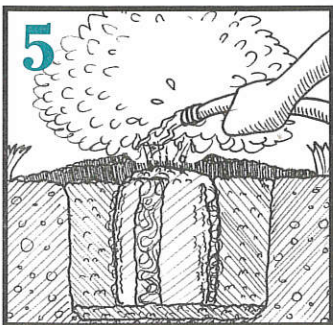
**2** Using a tree saw, or a large knife, make 1” deep vertical cuts from the top of the root mass to the bottom along the sides of the root mass. This will force new root growth, and prevent a condition called girdling; where the roots simply continue to grow in a circle, and never reach out to establish themselves fully.



**3** Dig a hole at least twice as wide as the container, and no deeper than the plant is planted in the container. Set your new plant in the hole, and adjust for best side forward, and straightness. Amend your native clay soil with LeafGro, mixed in half-and-half, to create a plant-friendly soil mix that will encourage root growth, and provide proper nutrition for your new investment. Use some of this amended soil to help hold the plant in place.



**4** Fill hole with amended soil to the original soil level. It is always better to have the root mass a little on the high side rather than too deep. Firm the soil around plant, being careful not to “over-compress” the new soil mixture.



**5** Using your mulch create a “basin” as shown in the diagram. Be sure that the top of the root ball is covered with about 2” of mulch. Water your new plant thoroughly. The equivalent to 1” of rainfall per week must be provided, for at least a year, for any newly planted tree or shrub to survive. If you don’t know how much rain we have had, go ahead and water the plant thoroughly. Deep soaking is more beneficial than frequent light watering, as it tends to force deep root production.

Using a root stimulator at planting time will encourage healthy new root production. This is the only “feeding” that you should apply for at least six months.

After the second year, unless we experience dry conditions, the newly planted specimen should be able to survive on its own... but any time we are short of rainfall during the spring and summer, it is a good idea to water all of your valuable landscape plants.