



# Blue Ridge Christmas Tree Farm's

## *Planting Tips & Helpful Hints*

### Planting Your Evergreens

- **Hole Size:** Holes should be dug wide enough so that you have plenty of room to easily maneuver your tree to a vertical position. Also, make sure that the hole(s) is not too deep. It is best to leave the top of the ball 1 - 4 inches above ground level and use the extra dirt to fill in around the tree.
- **Wire Basket & Burlap:** Do **NOT** remove the wire basket and burlap from the ball when planting your tree(s). Doing this could cause damage to the ball of the tree unnecessarily exposing roots and adding stress to the tree. Simply cut or untie the rope and burlap from the top of the ball and, before backfilling your hole, stuff the burlap and rope into the hole so that the dirt on top of the ball is exposed. The burlap and basket will rot and turn into food for the tree over a period of time.
- **Be Careful:** Do not to pull, twist, bend, or pry on the tree. This will loosen the tree from the ball making it more likely that the tree will blow in the wind. It is best to pry on the wire basket when planting.
- **Untie the Tree:** This should be your last step. Remember, the trees branches will take a few days to drop into their correct positions.

### Tree Care

- **Water, Water, Water!!!:** The most important thing that you can do to ensure that your tree will thrive is watering during those long hot summers. Water your tree regularly throughout the summer for the first couple of years. (Be careful not to over water if we are having an exceptionally wet summer).
- **Mulch:** Putting a moderate to heavy coating of hard wood mulch down after planting your tree(s) will help keep the moisture in the soil. Remember, pull the mulch away from the stump of the tree; not doing so could kill the tree.
- **Fertilizer:** Using a good fertilizer on your tree(s) can help make it grow faster and have a better color. We recommend a mixture such as 10-10-10 (can be found at local lawn center) for your tree(s). Fertilizer should be spread around the drip line of the tree; never at the base of the tree near the stump. NO fertilizer is needed the first year. Remember, too much of a good thing can be bad; don't over fertilize.

Thank you!!! If you have any other questions please feel free to contact us and we will be glad to help the best we can!

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[www.BlueRidgeTrees.com](http://www.BlueRidgeTrees.com)