

## HOW TO PLANT YOUR RPM TREE

Trees add beauty and interest to any landscape. But, their value goes far beyond seasonal color and cooling summer shade. The correct tree will,

- provide food and shelter for birds, pollinators and other wildlife.
- reduce costs for your heating and cooling.
- help clean the air.
- add value to your home.

Tree planting can be a significant investment in money, resources and time. Proper selection is key to whether you achieve your planting goals. The right tree will provide years of enjoyment and increase the value of your property.

There are so many trees to choose from! But, you can't go wrong with a native produced with Forrest Keeling's RPM technology. **RPM yields twice the results in half the time.** Studies show our RPM-produced plants **grow, flower and fruit two times faster.** Faster growth comes in part from unsurpassed lateral root mass. Greater root mass improves transplant success and helps plants grow faster!

Plant your tree any time that the soil is workable. For the Midwest, fall planting, between October 20 and December 10, is best. Fall's cooler air temperatures, still-warm soil and plentiful rain create ideal conditions. Your tree can develop a strong root system and be ready to take off in the spring. Spring planting, between March 1 and April 30, is next best.





## NATIVE IS OUR BRAND AT FKN

## SIX STEPS TO PLANTING SUCCESS:

- Give 'em room Dig your planting hole twice as wide and a bit shallower than the root ball of your tree. Rough up the sides of the planting hole. The extra space on the sides provides room for new roots to grow and the uneven sides make it easier for root tips to penetrate soil.
- Ready your tree Lay the tree on its side and tap container sides to loosen root ball. Remove container. Gently separate roots and guide them outward. Cut off long or crooked roots.
- 3. **Prepare the soil** Compacted soil will improve if mixed 50/50 with compost. The loosened soil provides a great environment for the new roots to grow.
- 4. **Stand up straight** Position tree in the planting hole and make sure it is standing upright. Tilt the root ball and backfill under it to correct the tree's orientation as needed.
- 5. **Get a good start** Backfill with loosened soil adding water as you go. Including root stimulator can speed development of new feeder roots. Firm the soil to stabilize the tree and eliminate air pockets.
- 6. The grand finale Once planted, add three to four inches of hardwood mulch around the tree. This helps maintain proper soil moisture and temperature and keep weeds at bay. Tree wrap and staking benefits larger trees. Tree wrap can help protect the tree from wildlife damage and sunscald.

TYPICAL CONTAINER TREE PLANTING PLAN

Arm DIFFERENCE

Spread 2–3" of hardwood mulch evenly around the tree; do not mound mulch against tree trunk.

Tree wrap properly attached to trunk. Loosen once a year.

Top of root ball level with surface of ground.

Hole dug at least twice as wide and only as deep as the root ball. Do not smooth or pack sides. · Backfill with soil and fertilize as recommended.

Root ball resting on solid, undisturbed soil to avoid sinkage.