

Watering Schedule:

Planting Date: _____

3 Days after planting:

Fill the watering basin 3 times. This initial watering is VERY important.

☐ Date: _____

First 3 weeks:

Each week, fill the watering basin one time with 5-10 gallons of water.

☐ Date: _____ ☐ Date: _____

☐ Date: _____

First 2-6 months (or until rainy season)

Water every other week with 10 gallons of water.

☐ Date: _____ ☐ Date: _____

☐ Date: _____ ☐ Date: _____

☐ Date: _____ ☐ Date: _____

Year 2:

Water 1-2 times per month. Use about 20 gallons of water.

☐ April: _____ ☐ July: _____

☐ May: _____ ☐ August: _____

☐ June: _____ ☐ September: _____

Years 3-4:

Water once a month or every other month: Use 10 gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter.

☐ March: _____ (if no rain)

☐ April: _____ (if no rain)

☐ June: _____

☐ July: _____

☐ August: _____

☐ September: _____ (if no rain)

☐ October: _____ (if no rain)

Your new young street tree:

Address: _____

Date Planted: _____

Tree Species: _____

Ownership: ☐ City Tree ☐ Private Tree

PLEASE DO NOT PRUNE YOUR TREE.

Canopy will prune street trees and private trees for the first 4 years. After 4 years, private trees will become the homeowner's responsibility to prune, and the City will prune street trees.

Please report any tree issues (broken stakes, unexpected leaf drop, etc.) to Canopy right away.



3921 E Bayshore Rd
Palo Alto, CA 94303
canopy.org
info@canopy.org
650 964 6110

City of Palo Alto Urban Forestry
650 496 5953



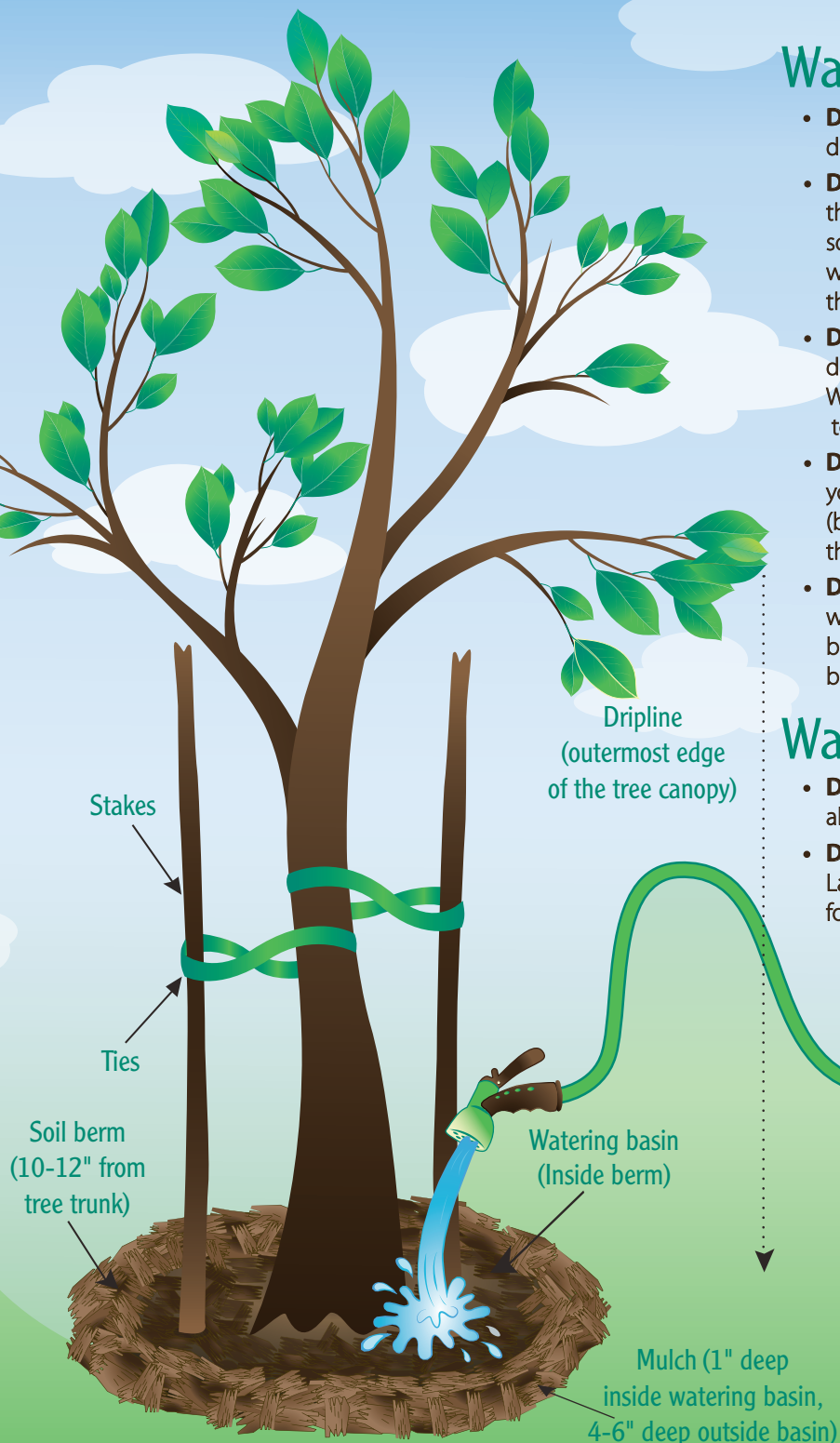
Created with digital green printing.



Young Tree Care:

How to Care
for your new tree





Watering Do's:

- **Do save water while saving trees.** During hot and dry weather, water your trees more and your lawn less.
- **Do water deeply.** Apply water slowly and evenly to the tree's root zone, especially around the dripline, soaking the soil to a depth of 6-12 inches. This "deep watering" prevents weak surface roots and encourages the growth of healthy roots underground.
- **Do water young trees by hand.** Once established, drought-tolerant trees need very little water to thrive. While trees are young, watering by hand is a good way to water deeply and efficiently.
- **Do maintain a watering basin.** While your tree is young, use packed soil to create a circular mound (berm) around your young tree. This creates a basin that directs water to the tree's roots.
- **Do adjust watering as your tree grows.** Over time, water further away from the trunk. Water thoroughly, but less frequently, allowing the soil to dry out between waterings.

Watering Don'ts:

- **Don't over water your tree.** After the first year, allow the soil to dry out between waterings.
- **Don't rely on lawn irrigation to water your trees.** Lawn irrigation does not provide adequate irrigation for trees and encourages weak surface roots.

Watering Guide:

- **3 days after planting:**
Fill the watering basin 3 times using 15-20 gallons of water in total.
- **For the next 3 weeks:**
Once per week, fill the watering basin with 5-10 gallons of water.
- **For the next 6 months (or until the rainy season starts)**
Fill the watering basin with 10 gallons of water every other week.
- **For the 2nd year:**
Widen the watering basin. Water with **20 gallons of water** once a month in the absence of soaking rain, and more often when temperatures reach 90 degrees.
- **For years 3 - 5:**
Water once per month, or every other month in the absence of soaking rain.

Trees love mulch!:

Mulch serves to:

- Insulate tree roots from extreme temperatures
- Slow evaporation, so you can water less often
- Suppress weeds
- Feed nutrients into the soil as the mulch breaks down

Mulching Tips

1. Use organic matter such as wood chips or leaf matter.
2. Apply mulch 3-5" deep (or 1 inch deep if using spray irrigation), extending at least as far as the drip line.
3. Keep mulch a few inches away from the base of a mature tree, or mulch lightly within the watering basin of a new tree.
4. If weeds persist, place a layer of newspaper or cardboard underneath the mulch.
5. Replenish mulch every spring

More watering and tree care resources at canopy.org