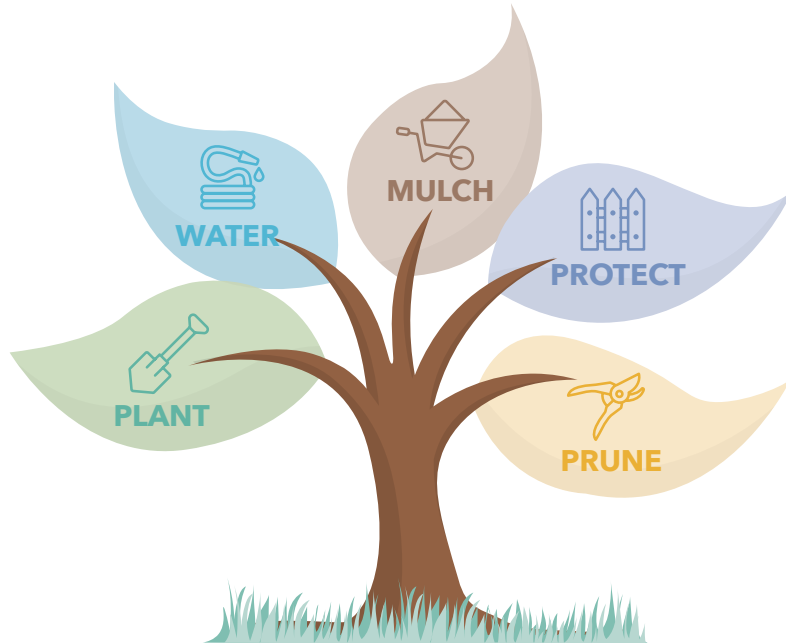



# SEASONAL CARE OF YOUNG TREES



Young trees have special needs for several years after planting. Here are some tips to give your new tree a head start for a long, healthy future.



- Put the right tree in the right place!**  
 Before purchasing a tree, learn which growing conditions—such as light, moisture and soil type—it needs to thrive.
- Keep the mature tree in mind!**  
 Choose a spot where the tree won't interfere with power lines, property boundaries, hydrants, road visibility etc.
- Call before you dig!**  
 Gopher State One Call needs to mark underground utilities before you plant. Call 811 or visit [gopherstateonecall.org](http://gopherstateonecall.org).
- Plant it properly!**  
 Click [here](#) to watch our tree planting video.

GROWING SEASON								DORMANT SEASON			
April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
ground thaws		leaf-out & flowering		growth & fruiting		leaves turn & drop		tree stops growing		soil is frozen	
<p><b>PLANT</b> anytime during the growing season.</p> <p><b>WATER</b> over the root system immediately after planting and then weekly—twice weekly, if the weather is extremely hot or dry. Consider using a watering bag that releases water slowly. Gradually increase the watering area to accommodate roots, which can grow up to 18 inches per year.</p> <p>Immediately after planting, apply a ring of organic <b>MULCH</b>. It should be three feet in diameter, three inches thick, and stop about three inches from the tree's trunk.</p>								 <p>No planting, watering or mulching are needed while the tree is dormant.</p>			
<p>Install wire-welded caging to <b>PROTECT</b> the tree from browsing deer. Leave in place for 3-5 years.</p>				<p>Use a white tree guard around the tree between September and May, to <b>PROTECT</b> young trees from damage.</p>							
<p><b>PRUNE</b> as needed to ensure the tree develops good form and structure. Learn more <a href="#">here</a>.</p>						<p><b>PRUNE</b> ash and oak trees in winter to reduce the spread of insects and diseases.</p>					