



## **Caring for your New Plantings!**

- ✿ Inspect plant for any broken or rubbing branches. Prune these branches to shape your tree or shrub properly before planting.
- ✿ It is best to plant trees, shrubs and perennials as soon as possible. If not planting immediately, keep in a cool, moist place and water plant in the pot so it does not dry out.
- ✿ Dig the hole approximately 1 foot wider than the plant's root system. It is important to loosen up the existing soil and combine it with soil additives, such as compost.
- ✿ Remove plant from pot and place in hole. Backfill existing soil with the compost & existing soil mixture.
- ✿ Mix root stimulator with water per directions on bottle. Water plant in well with root stimulator solution after planting. Follow up with an additional application in 2 weeks and then 1 time each month throughout the season.
- ✿ Water carefully - too much or too little water can set back or even kill your plants. See watering guidelines handout.
- ✿ Stake trees or tall plants with proper stakes and banding as needed to prevent wind damage.
- ✿ Mulch around plant. Keep mulch 1" away from trunk.
- ✿ Monitor insect and disease populations – A regular monitoring program is recommended, especially during the first year when plants are more susceptible to pest problems.
- ✿ In the late fall of the first few years protect the tree trunk or tender plants with a wire mesh tree protector to prevent damage from deer, rabbits, and voles. It is also important to water your plant regularly until the ground freezes to prepare for winter!