



North Branch Nursery, Inc.

Personalized Service, Rooted in Quality
www.NorthBranchNursery.com

Plant Care Instructions

Please call with any questions!

The wide variety of plants available for your landscape can feel overwhelming when it is time to care for them. Most require minimal maintenance, but with a few simple tricks you can improve the quality and life of your plants.

Tree Stakes

When your tree was planted, it was staked to keep it from moving in the wind. This stake should be removed after one year to prevent damage to the tree. If the tree is in a high wind location or requires additional staking, remove the original stake and reset them to avoid damage to the tree.

Pruning

The key to successful pruning is to have sharp pruning tools. We recommend cleaning your pruning tools with rubbing alcohol to prevent spreading disease. Clean your tools between each plant or between each cut if the plant is infected.

Pruning is recommended to remove diseased or broken branches and to maintain the shape of your plants. Pruning is not recommended to control the size of your plants. Picking the right plant for the right place will ensure a lower maintenance landscape that does not require constant pruning to keep the plants under control.

In general, do not prune more than one third of the plant at a time. Some shrubs (such as spirea) can be cut back harder

Flowering Trees & Shrubs – best time to prune is right after they flower. Prune once a year.

Evergreen Trees:

Pines – prune near the end of June or early July. Remove some of the new growth (called candles) Spruces & Firs – prune between August and February. Do not remove more than half of the new growth.

Hedges (boxwoods, privet, etc.) – prune as needed during the season

Shade Trees – after the first year, remove one or two of the lowest limbs until the desired height under the canopy is achieved. Most shade trees can be trimmed any time of the year. Oaks and honey locust should only be pruned in the winter to prevent damage or disease. It is easier to prune trees in the winter so you can see the branching structure.

Quality Plants & Service Since 1982

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