

Mulch - Your Tree's Best Friend

A NEWLY PLANTED TREE'S BEST FRIEND IS MULCH. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER TO MULCH YOUR TREE AFTER YOU HAVE PLANTED.



Hamilton



Trees
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| (905) 546-CITY (2489)

Mulching is one of the most valuable things a homeowner can do for a tree's health. Mulch is any material placed on the soil to conserve moisture and improve growing conditions. Common materials include arborist's wood chips, bark, pine needles and compost.

Proper Mulching:

1. Apply a minimum of 10 cm (4 inches) to a maximum of 150 cm (60 inches) of mulch over the planting area. The wider the mulch ring, the greater the benefit. Mulch out to the tree's drip line, if possible.
2. Do not pile mulch against the tree trunk. Pull mulch back several inches from the trunk so the base of the trunk and root crown are exposed. The mulch-ring shape should resemble a "doughnut" not a "volcano".
3. If mulch is already present, check the depth. Do not add more if sufficient layers are already in place.
4. Organic mulches are preferred to inorganic materials. Organic mulches should be well-aerated and composted. Avoid sour smelling mulch.

The Benefits of Mulch:

- Insulates the soil helping to provide a buffer from heat and cold temperatures
- Retains water helping to keep the roots moist
- Keeps weeds out to help prevent root competition
- Prevents soil compaction
- Reduces lawn mower and string trimmer damage

Call the city to request your FREE street tree.



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