



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO

Water Conservancy District

"Your investment in water"

Water Wise Demonstration Garden

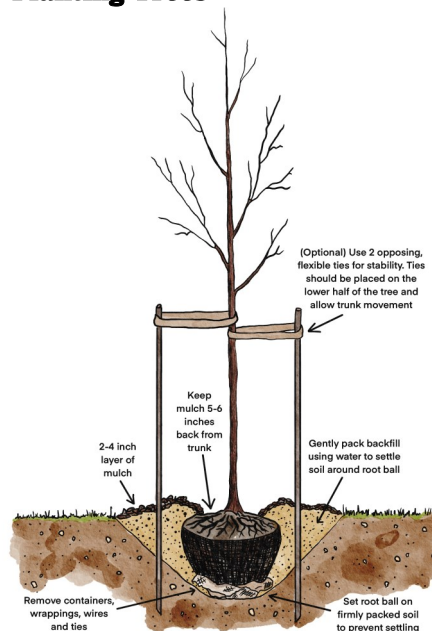
Planting and Seeding

Planting Perennials

1. Plant at the right time and in the right place. Spring and fall are the best times to add new plants. Be sure to plant "full sun" plants in an area that receives 6-8 hours of sun per day.
2. Dig a planting hole twice as wide and the same depth as the pot.
3. Carefully remove the plant from its pot and gently loosen the roots if needed.
4. Place the root ball in the hole. Backfill the hole with soil and a handful or two of compost.
5. Thoroughly water the new planting and continue watering every couple of days for the first month, enough to keep the soil moist but not waterlogged.
6. Mulch the area but keep it a few inches away from the base of the plant to prevent crown rot.
7. After the first month lower watering to once every 4-6 days.



Planting Trees



Planting trees is similar to planting perennials but with a few additional steps.

1. If the planted tree is in an area with high winds it may need to be stabilized with stakes and ties.
2. During establishment a watering basin around the tree will help direct water to the root ball.
3. Water requirements are based on trunk diameter (10 gallons per week/per inch of diameter). Always water within the tree's dripline.
4. Trees generally take one year to establish for each inch of trunk diameter.
5. Once established trees can be watered less frequently.

Spreading Seeds

1. Measure the square footage of your planting area. Most seed mixes will specify their seed coverage rates.
2. Spreading seed in fall is best as many native seeds require a period of cold weather to germinate in spring.
3. Prepare the planting area by breaking up compacted soil.
4. Mix seed with 6-8 parts sand to 1 part seed. This helps to get even coverage.
5. (Optional) Cover soil with a layer of crusher fines (a finely crushed stone mix). This "sowing mulch" will provide protection from weeds.
6. Spread seed as evenly as possible by hand for small areas or use a seed spreader for larger areas.
7. Compress soil by walking on it after seeding. Do not cover seeds.
8. Water regularly in the spring to simulate wet year conditions.



More information can be found on our website:

[www.secwcd.org/
content/plant-
recommendations](http://www.secwcd.org/content/plant-recommendations)

