

City of Rossford

Caring for a Newly Planted Tree

Watering

New trees require regular watering, particularly during the dry months in the summer. Trees should receive regular watering for at least the first 3 years after they are planted. A good rule of thumb is that trees need 1 inch of rainfall per week during the growing season, some sources recommend 15 gallons a week. Thorough watering promotes root development.

The most common reason that newly planted trees do not survive is due to an insufficient amount of water.

Mulch

If you choose to mulch, mulch should be no more than 3 inches thick around the tree. Keep mulch back several inches from the base of the tree. The mulch should not come in direct contact with the tree trunk, and slope the mulch from the outside edge toward the tree so that it forms a basin that channels moisture towards the base of the tree.

Mowing

String trimmers or “weed whackers” should not be used to cut grass near the base of a tree. They can damage the tree trunk by cutting into the bark and cause a tree to fail. Care should also be taken when using lawn mowers close to the trunk of a tree.