

Hello, I'm a volunteer Tree Checker with

Thank you for taking the first step in greening our city by requesting a tree! Did you know that by caring for your newly planted tree, you are investing in decades of tree benefits? The care a tree gets during its first two years in the ground often determines its long-term survival.

Tree Check-Up Report

Water

- Thank you for adequately watering your newly planted tree.
- Water is crucial for your tree's survival. Give your tree 15-20 gallons of water per week, especially during the first year after planting, applied slowly and gently with a trickling hose or bucket with holes. Water from mid-March until December.



Weed and Clean

- Thank you for keeping your tree pit weed- and trash-free.
- Please take the time to weed and clean your tree pit. Weeds and trash can prevent water from reaching tree roots, causing a decline in your tree's health. Substances like motor oil, de-icing salt, detergent, and urine can kill your tree.

Aerate Soil and Expose Root Flare

- Thank you for keeping the ground around your tree free of compacted soil and making sure that your tree's root flare is not buried.
- Loosen the soil around your tree using a hand cultivator or trowel. Compacted soil prevents water and air from reaching tree roots. The root flare is where the trunk widens and the roots begin. Buried root flares can kill trees, so make sure that your tree's root flare is visible at the surface of the soil.



Mulch

- Thank you for mulching your newly planted tree.
- Please add mulch around your newly planted tree. Mulch conserves soil moisture, controls weeds, improves root health, and prevents lawnmower damage and soil compaction. Remember to weed and cultivate the soil before mulching. Follow the 3-3-3 rule of mulching: no more than 3-inches thick, 3-inches away from the trunk so as not to bury the root flare, and a 3-foot radius circle (if possible).

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Stakes & Tie

- Thank you for removing ties attached to tree trunk.
- Thank you for protecting your tree from cars by retaining stakes.
- Please remove ties from your tree one year after planting. They can become a hazard if left on too long.

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Overall Health and Comments

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For more information and to watch videos on how to properly care for your newly planted tree, please visit phsonline.org, click on "Trees," and follow the link to "Watch Videos on Tree Planting & Care."

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If you would like to learn even more and become a PHS Tree Tender® go to phsonline.org and click on "Tree Tenders."

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PLANT ONE MILLION

3 states. 13 counties. 1 tree at a time.

PlantOneMillion.org

Your tree has been counted!

Led by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) and partners, Plant One Million is the nation's largest multi-state tree campaign. The project aims to replenish the tree population of 13 counties in the Greater Philadelphia region, including southern New Jersey and Delaware.



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