

The Growing Scene, Inc

Nursery-Garden Center-Landscaping

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Planting Container Grown Shrubs

-BEFORE YOU DIG CALL JULIE (Joint Utility Locator Service) at (800) 892-0123 for free location of any underground utilities. (Allow 2 working days.)

-Before planting any shrub, be sure that your planting location provides the proper soil, light and water requirements for the shrub you've chosen. Also, because most plants cannot tolerate standing water, you may want to check the drainage of an area before planting anything there. To do this, dig the hole then fill it up with water. If there is still water there 24 hours later, do not plant in that area.

-The first, very important step in planting any shrub is proper soil preparation. If your soil is a reddish color or if you know you have sandy or clay soil, then add a mixture of peat moss and mushroom compost. If you are planting several shrubs, you can spread 2" of peat moss then 2" of mushroom compost over the entire planting area then work it into the soil with a rototiller or by hand with a shovel. If you are just planting a single shrub, it is easier just to add the peat moss and mushroom compost after you dig the hole.

-Dig a planting hole as deep as the container and at least twice as wide.

-Tip the plant on its side and carefully remove it from its container. Use a knife and make 3 pie piece cuts at the bottom of the plant into the root system. This helps redirect the roots outward so they do not eventually strangle the plant.

-Set the shrub in the hole, making sure that its crown (the point where the trunk meets the roots) is level with the surface of the surrounding soil. If the trunk is buried, it will rot.

-Fill in the hole and slightly cover the top of the roots with a mixture of 1/3 mushroom compost, 1/3 peat moss, and 1/3 the soil you dug out of the hole. Tamp down lightly, but do not compact.

-Water the shrub. Lay the end of the hose at the base of the plant and

-Mulch planting with 2 inches of mulch, being careful not to pile mulch directly around the trunk.

-Water thoroughly whenever the soil near the base of the shrub feels dry to the touch.