

# TOP 10 TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL TREE PLANTING



## #1 - SET YOUR GOALS!

Determine what you hope to accomplish with your tree planting in the short-term and long-term.



## #2 - EVALUATE YOUR PLANTING SITE.

Climate, soil types, current vegetation, topography, surrounding landscape, and endangered resources are factors you need to consider before planting.



## #3 - SELECT TREE SPECIES THAT MATCH YOUR GOALS AND YOUR PLANTING SITE.

Remember, DNR and cooperating consultant foresters can provide tree planting advice and develop written tree planting plans to help you with the process.



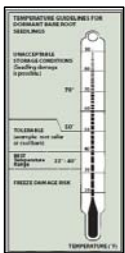
## #4 - PREPARE YOUR PLANTING SITE BEFORE THE TREES ARRIVE.

Just like a vegetable garden must be prepared for spring planting, tree planting sites must be prepared to control competing vegetation. Site preparation is best done during the summer or fall before planting your trees.



## #5 - TRANSPORT YOUR TREES PROPERLY FROM THE NURSERY.

Always keep your seedlings cool and protected from direct sunlight; cover with a light colored or reflective tarp if possible.



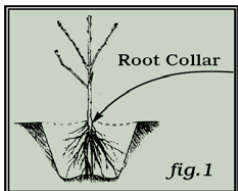
## #6 - PLANT ASAP!

Always keep your trees cool (33-40F) and moist (90-95% humidity) until planted. For best results, plant within 5 days of delivery from the nursery.



## #7 - CREATE A PLANTING HOLE DEEP ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE THE ENTIRE ROOT SYSTEM.

Only prune excessively long roots when necessary. For example, 2 and 3 year old seedlings can have roots pruned 8-10 inches below the root collar.



## #8 - PLANT SEEDLINGS WITH ROOT COLLAR AT SOIL LINE OR NOT MORE THAN 1/2 INCH DEEPER.

(see *fig. 1* for location of root collar)



## #9 - CONTROL COMPETING WEEDS AND GRASSES AFTER PLANTING WITH APPROPRIATE HERBICIDES, MOWING, TILLING, OR WEED MATS.

Weed control treatments should be applied annually for the first 3-5 growing seasons or until trees are growing well.



## #10 - PROTECT YOUR TREES FROM DEER!

Deer damage can be limited through the use of fencing, tree shelters, repellents, and hunting.