Why Plant a Tree?

The simple act of planting a tree helps the environment in so many ways.

Trees….

- create shade and cool the environment
- provide a home for wildlife
- help recycle water through transpiration
- prevent soil loss
- provide oxygen and filter pollution from the air
- provide food for people and animals
- beautify the landscape
- create a learning and recreational environment for the community

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**OCEAN COUNTY
BOARD OF
CHOSEN COMMISSIONERS**

Virginia E. Haines
John P. Kelly
Gerry P. Little
Gary Quinn
Joseph H. Vicari

**OCEAN COUNTY
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

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Craig Theibault, Chairperson
Charlene Costaris, Vice Chairperson

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR SEEDLING

"The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The second best time is now."
African Proverb

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Ocean County Shade Tree Commission
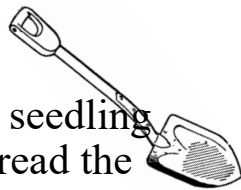
HOW TO PLANT YOUR SEEDLING OUTDOORS

What you will need...
- Shovel
- Gloves
- Proper footwear
- Water

SELECT a good location with proper amount of sunlight, remember your tree needs room to grow.

DIG a hole two to three times larger than the root system

REMOVE your seedling from the bag spread the roots and moisten them. Dry roots will die.

PLACE your tree in the hole with the roots straight down. Do not bunch or bend them. Make sure you do not plant them too deep or too shallow.

KEEP stones and twigs out of the hole, they create air pockets that could dry the roots.

COVER the roots with soil and pack it down with your hands to remove air pockets.

MULCH around your tree with wood chips, about 2 inches high, but not against the base of the trunk.

WATER your seedling regularly every one to two weeks during the first year.

HOW TO GROW YOUR SEEDLING INDOORS

CHOOSE a one gallon container.

FILL container with potting soil.

PLANT the seedling the same as above.

WATER your seedling about every week. Plant outside in the ground as soon as possible.