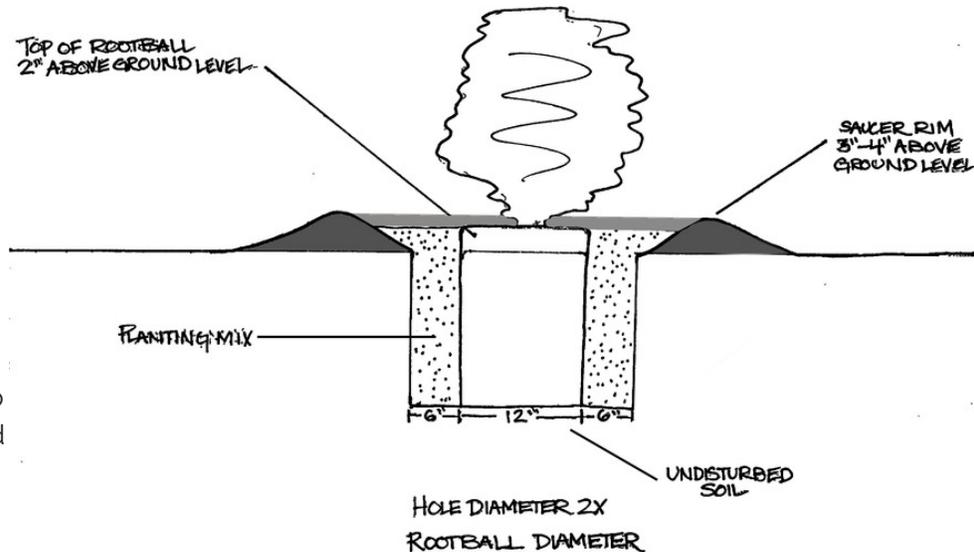


# GardenGuide

Lichtenfelt Nurseries 🌸 947 Anderson Ridge Road Greer, SC 29651 🌸 864-458-9864 🌸 lichtenfelts@gmail.com

## How to Plant Trees and Shrubs

- Water plant thoroughly while still in its pot.
- Remove plant from pot. If roots form a solid mass, make 3 cuts in the ball with pruners or a saw from top to bottom and about 2" into the root ball. This encourages roots to grow out of the root ball and into the planting mix.
- Dig hole twice as wide and 2" shallower than the root ball, leaving the native soil/clay piled around the hole. The sides of the hole should be straight down, not angled inward.
- Dump the proper amount of our Mushroom Compost and Soil Conditioner (see back) into the hole. Toss the native soil back on top and mix the three together.
- Shovel planting mix back out of the hole and set plant in hole, shoveling the mix around the plant. Leave top of root ball visible.
- Leave the planting mix loose. DO NOT tamp it down with your hands or feet. The water from your garden hose will settle the mix around the root ball.
- Use the excess planting mix to build a 3-4" high berm or dam around the outside edge of the hole, making a "saucer" to hold water from your garden hose.
- Cover the top of the root ball and the "saucer" with pine needles or with no more than 1" of mulch.
- Use a garden hose to fill up the saucer 2-3 times or count to 30 (to 60 for plants larger than 5 gallons) if the water soaks in quickly and never fills the saucer.
- Water your plant this way NO MORE THAN 2-3 times a week.



## How to Water

- Water your plant with a garden hose for at least the first six weeks after planting. Sprinkler or drip irrigation systems often do not soak root balls deeply enough during this time.
- At planting, be sure to have constructed a "saucer" around the plant so water soaks into the root ball and does not run off.
- Using a garden hose, count to 30 (to 60 for plants larger than 5 gallons).
- Water your plant this way NO MORE THAN 2-3 times a week.

## How to Fertilize

- We offer two Espoma organic fertilizers:
  - **Holly-tone** for acid-loving plants (azaleas, camellias, dogwoods, ferns, hollies, hydrangeas, (see bag for more)
  - **Plant-tone** for all other plants not listed on the Holly-tone bag (bedding plants, vegetables, boxwood, arborvitae)
- Watch a terrific 3 minute video about these products at [www.lichtenfelts.com/fertilize](http://www.lichtenfelts.com/fertilize).
- Our organic **Mushroom Compost** not only feeds plants, it attracts earthworms - the more earthworms in the soil around your plants, the happier your plants!
- Non-organic, synthetic (man-made) fertilizers often create a toxic environment for earthworms.

## When to Prune Trees and Shrubs

Heavy pruning should be done according to the following schedule. Light pruning may be done throughout the year.

### Spring-Flowering Trees and Shrubs

If they flower before June, they should be pruned immediately after they bloom. Heavy pruning of these plants in fall, winter, or early spring will remove flower buds. Gardenias, shade hydrangeas, and all azaleas, including Encores, are in this group.

### Summer-and Fall-Flowering Trees and Shrubs

If they flower in June or later, they may be pruned in late February or early March. Sun hydrangeas and crapemyrtles are in this group.

### Roses

Prune in March or April. We sell only groundcover, shrub, and climbing roses. These types require only minimal "shaping."

### Hollies, Osmanthus, Cleyera, Ligustrum

Prune in early March. The very best time to prune these plants is immediately before the new leaves appear. May also prune later in spring and early summer, but don't do heavy pruning after July.

### Fruiting Trees and Vines

Call Clemson University Extension Service at 888-656-9988 or visit [hgic.clemson.edu](http://hgic.clemson.edu)

## Soil Amendments We Recommend and Why

### Mushroom Compost

We know, it DOES smell pretty bad - BUT THE PLANTS LOVE IT and we haven't found anything to match it! This mixture of fully-composted chicken litter, wheat straw, cottonseed meal, gypsum, and lime has been used to grow one crop of mushrooms. When the mushrooms are harvested, the compost is bagged and sent straight to us. Not only does mushroom compost feed plants, it's also a favorite of earthworms - and the more earthworms in the soil around your plants, the happier your plants will be! We sell only the REAL STUFF. Beware of products sold as "mushroom soil" which are mostly pine bark fines and sand.

### Soil Conditioner

In our area, plants fail to thrive as often from sitting in soggy clay soil as from drought!

Our soil conditioner is fully-composted pine bark - the very best product for breaking up red clay, allowing excess water to drain away from plants. (We discourage the use of peat moss for planting in red clay. It holds too much water and prevents good drainage.)

### How to Use

A planting mixture of 1/3 native soil, 1/3 mushroom compost, and 1/3 soil conditioner can't be beat! You'll need one bag of our mushroom compost and one bag of our soil conditioner for every:  
8 1-gallon plants, or  
4 3-gallon plants, or  
1 15-gallon plant or larger, or  
10 square feet of bed space for bedding plants.

## Customer Service Policy

We stand behind the quality of our plants and make every effort to ensure that your purchase is healthy and true to its name. We'll help you find the right plant for the right place and give you advice to make your garden successful.

### Our Warranty\*

If your tree or shrub doesn't survive for twelve months, we ask that you return the dead plant along with your receipt and we will give you a store credit for one-half of your purchase price. Annuals, herbaceous perennials, and tropicals are not covered under this warranty.

### Returns and Exchanges

If a plant you purchased is not quite right or you bought too many, you may return it within 7 days for the right one or a refund. We ask that you return the plant in the same condition in which it was purchased (and unplanted) along with your receipt.

\*Revised July 2019