

Why Should We Replace Trees?

Trees are excellent neighbors, providing us with a multitude of valuable benefits. They improve our environment, beautify our neighborhoods, raise property values, enhance our quality of life, provide shelter and food for wildlife, act as a windbreak during storm events, prevent soil erosion and reduce energy costs. They deliver benefits 24 hours per day, every day of every year. And with a little care and protection, many trees will remain on the job for a hundred years or more.

Are you ready to plant some trees and enjoy the benefits of shading your home?

South Florida's climate promotes rapid tree growth year-round, while facing challenges from sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, and storm related events. "Right Tree Right Place" principles are important, as is proper planting, proper tree maintenance and correct tree species choice. Trees that flower, trees with large canopies, trees with unique bark/fruit, trees that can grow with salt exposure, all can be found or planted in South Florida. Here are some sample tree selections with overall tree canopy size:

Large Canopy Trees (35'+): Gumbo Limbo, Mahogany, Live Oak, Paradise Tree.

Medium Canopy Trees (20-35'): Silver Buttonwood, Satin Leaf, Orange Geiger, Fiddlewood.

Small Canopy Trees (>20'): Jamaican Caper, Simpsons Stopper, Lignum Vitae, Crape Myrtle.

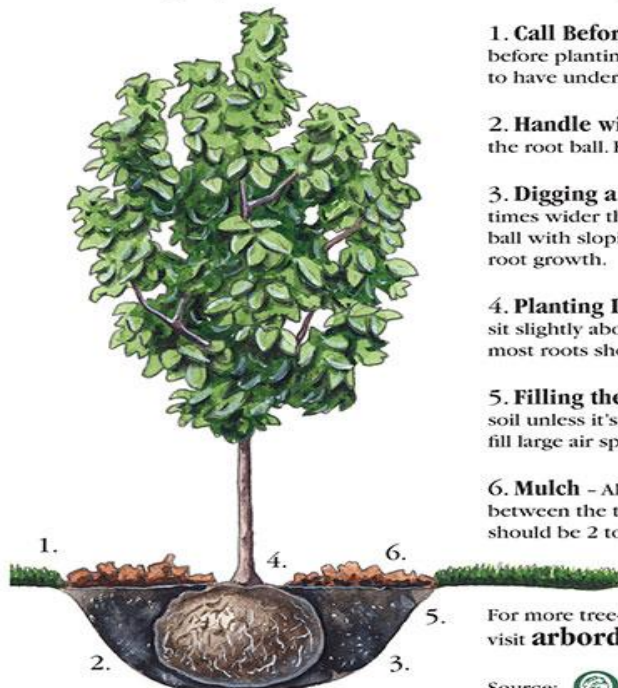


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Gumbo Limbo, Orange Geiger, Jamaican Caper

Six things you should know when planting a tree.



1. Call Before You Dig – Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. Handle with Care – Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. Digging a Proper Hole – Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. Planting Depth – The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the top-most roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. Filling the Hole – Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. Mulch – Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

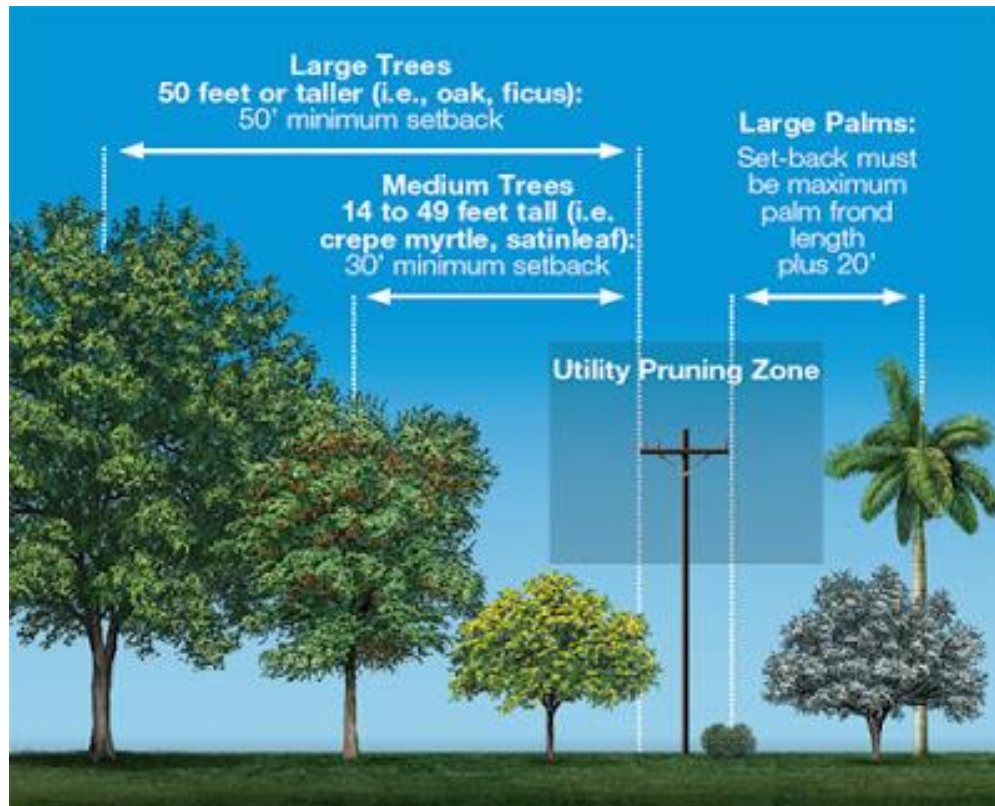
For more tree-planting tips and information, visit arborday.org.

Source:  **Arbor Day Foundation**
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The following websites provide additional information concerning “Right Tree Right Place”, Proper Tree Pruning, Tree Planting, Tree Selection, and Utility Location services. Always consult an **ISA Certified Arborist** with any additional tree questions:

- <https://www.fpl.com/reliability/trees/tree-location.html>
- <https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/pruning.shtml>
- <https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/planting.shtml>
- <https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/treesandpowerlines/southeast florida.shtml>
- <https://www.sunshine811.com/>



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