

Help the Earth: Plant a Tree!

Trees help in so many ways. They keep our houses cool. They give homes to birds and animals. They help clean the air.

Choose a tree to plant that will grow in your area. Find a place where it will have sunlight, water, good soil, and room to grow.

Don't forget to take care of the tree after you plant it! Water it often so it can grow tall.

Follow these steps to plant a small tree that comes in a container.

away from the trunk.

Keep mulch four inches

Cover the dirt with a few inches of mulch to keep other plants away.

Dig a hole at least twice as wide as the container so the roots can spread.

• Dig a hole twice as wide as the container and a little deeper.

2 Carefully remove the tree from the container.

3 Loosen the roots. If the roots have grown in circles inside the pot, cut through them in four or five places.

• Lower the tree into the center of the hole. Cover the roots with dirt and press down.

6 Make sure the trunk is straight!

6 Water deeply.

Plant so the root ball is a little higher than the ground.

Mound dirt and mulch in a circle around the tree to catch rain.

Loosen the roots of the tree before planting or they might grow in circles.