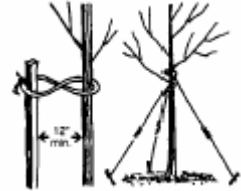


# Helpful Tree Care Hints

## Staking

Trees don't need staking unless they are prone to blow over regularly or have a high chance of vandalism. Not staking your trees allows them to sway in the breeze, helping them develop a stronger trunk.



## Mulching



Most trees and shrub beds need more mulch every year or two. By applying additional mulch you help keep the weeds from growing (less work for you later on). The plant roots stay cool and moist and the plants are healthier. Apply 3 to 5 inches of shredded tree mulch under the plants keeping it 3-5 inches away from the trunk or stem.

Remember, too much mulch can suffocate plant roots, increase fungus or insect damage or even cause drought if the mulch doesn't allow water into the soil. A mulch ring should never resemble a volcano!

## Watering

All plants need water in the form of rain or additional watering by buckets or the hose. The amount that you water will vary depending on the type of soil you have. Trees in sandy soil will require more water and plants in clay soils will require less. On average most plants need 1" of water per week.



For more information visit: <http://www.treetrust.org>



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