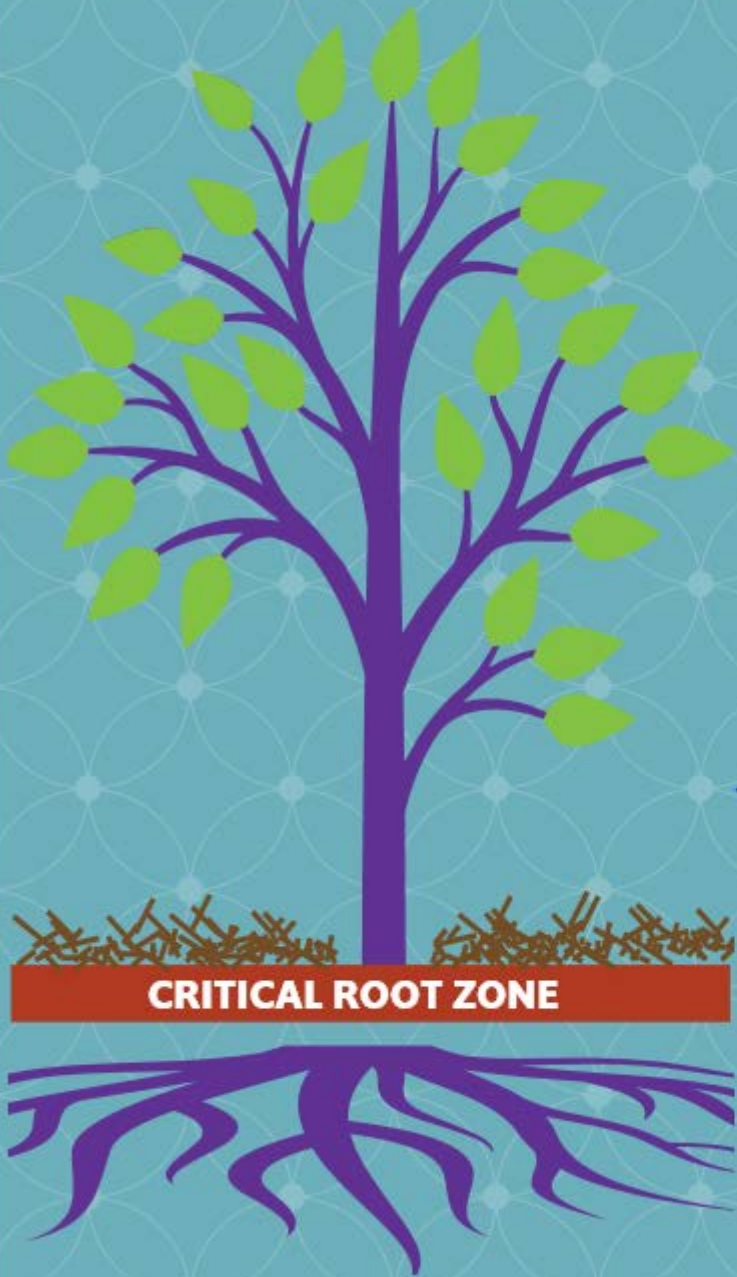


**Watering is a critical tool for minimizing stress to trees in areas receiving low precipitation and drying winds. Properly watering your trees can help protect against branch dieback, disease and insect infestation.**



### **TREE ROOTS ARE NOT LIKE CARROT ROOTS**

Most roots are within the top 12 inches of soil. Apply water evenly to the entire critical root zone, from tree trunk out to beneath the tips of the branches.

### **WATER DEEPLY AND SLOWLY**

Apply water slowly so it moistens the soil to a depth of 12 inches. If you use a deep root fork or needle, insert the device no deeper than eight inches into the soil. Other watering methods include a sprinkler, a soaker hose, a soft spray wand and various bucket or bag systems that dispense measured amounts of water through small holes in the bottom of the container.

### **USE MULCH**

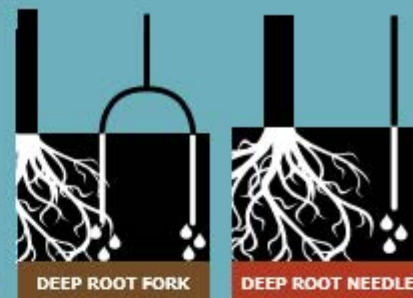
To conserve soil moisture, apply three to four inches of organic mulch above the critical root zone. It is best to eliminate turf prior to adding mulch. Leave a six-inch space between the mulch and the tree trunk. Mulch materials may include wood chips, bark, leaves and evergreen needles.

### **APPLY THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF WATER**

During each watering, apply about 10 gallons of water for each inch of the tree's trunk diameter (measured across the tree trunk, not around it). Account for additional landscape and turf watering to avoid applying too much water. Overwatering forces oxygen out of the soil around the roots and can lead to death of a tree. See the chart on next page for a guide on how to water your tree.

## WATERING DEVICE

TRUNK DIAMETER IN INCHES	TREE TRUNK DIAMETER IN INCHES	Deep Root Fork 2 GALLONS PER MINUTE	Deep Root Needle 2 GALLONS PER MINUTE	Soft Spray Wand 4 GALLONS PER MINUTE	Soaker Hose 2 GALLONS PER MINUTE 50 FT W/ RESTRICTOR
	TIME IN MINUTES				
<1"		2	2	1	2
1"		5	5	3	5
2"		10	10	5	10
4"		20	20	10	20
6"		30	30	15	30
8"		40	40	20	40
10"		50	50	25	50
12"		60	60	30	60
>14"		70+	70+	35+	70+



SOFT SPRAY WAND

SOAKER HOSE

## WHEN TO WATER

The watering schedule below provides a guideline for how often to water your trees throughout the year. From October to April, water only during daytime when there is no snow and the temperature is above 40 degrees. A tree may require more or less frequent watering depending on the soil type and the weather. To check if the soil has adequate moisture, carefully dig down 6 to 10 inches, avoiding any roots. If the soil feels powdery or it crumbles, it is time to water. If it clings together when squeezed, it contains adequate moisture.

Watering Schedule	May-September	October-April
0-2 years after planting	3 times per week	2 times per month
<4" trunk diameter	Once per week	1-2 times per month
4"-10" trunk diameter	3 times per month	1-2 times per month
>10" trunk diameter	Twice per month	Once per month