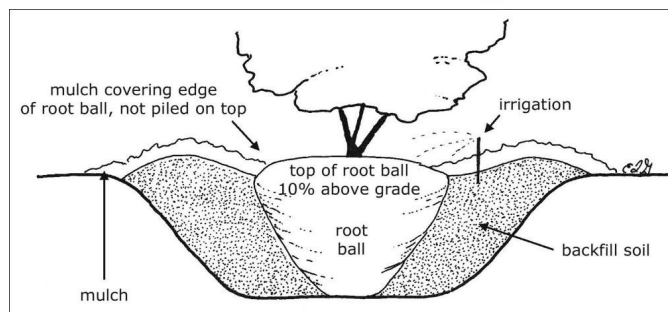


# POLK COUNTY FACTSHEET

## 10 STEPS FOR PROPER PLANTING IN SANDY SOIL IN POLK COUNTY



DRAWING FROM UF/IFAS EDIS PUBLICATION #ENH856

- 1. CHECK FOR BURIED WIRES** Call Sunshine811 at 1-800-432-4770 to request free visits from your local utilities to mark the locations of underground wires.
- 2. DIG THE PLANTING HOLE** The hole should be as deep as the root ball or slightly shallower, and three to four times as wide.
- 3. REMOVE THE ROOT BALL FROM THE CONTAINER** Gently loosen any circling roots at the sides or bottom of the root ball.
- 4. PLACE THE ROOT BALL IN THE HOLE** The root ball should be at the same depth that it was growing in the container, or slightly higher.
- 5. BACKFILL THE HOLE WITH THE EXCAVATED SOIL** Tamp down slightly to remove air pockets.
- 6. USE THE REMAINING SOIL TO BUILD A DAM** This forms a basin with the root ball in the center.
- 7. WATER THOROUGHLY**
- 8. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO APPLY FERTILIZER, TOPSOIL OR COMPOST AT THIS TIME**
- 9. ADD MULCH** Apply a two to three inch layer of mulch around the edge of the root ball.
- 10. WATER ON A REGULAR SCHEDULE UNTIL THE PLANT IS ESTABLISHED**

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All chemicals should be used in accordance with directions on the manufacturer's label.

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## Where can I find more information?

For a list of our programs and related topics, go to our website <http://polkextension.com>

### Or, Call your County Extension Agent:

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Residential Horticulture Agent

Master Gardener Coordinator

UF/IFAS Extension Polk County

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W: <http://polkextension.com>

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