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## WATERING YOUR NEW PLANT

A regular deep soaking is better than frequent light watering.

***Moisture should reach the bottom of the root ball*** to encourage ideal root growth.

Running your hose at a slow trickle for up to 4-5 hours may be necessary to get the water to the bottom of the root ball.

Take care not to over water. An over watered plant often looks like an under watered plant. If you see your plant wilting and are constantly watering, back off with the water. During a dry spell, be sure to deeply water your plant and the surrounding soil.

If you are uncertain whether a plant needs to be watered, dig down 6-8 inches at the edge of the planting hole. If the soil at that depth feels powdery or crumbly, the plant needs water.

Important points to remember:

- ◆ Water thoroughly, but not to excess, based on your soil type. Clay soil absorbs slowly and once wet will hold moisture much longer than sandy soil. Sandy soil doesn't hold water, so you may need to water more often.
- ◆ ***Do not depend on irrigation systems (e.g., those designed to water turf) for adequately watering new trees and shrubs.***
- ◆ Weather conditions play a large role in determining when to water. Rainy, cloudy, cooler weather may mean watering less often. Sunny, windy, and warmer weather may require more frequent watering.
- ◆ In a dry fall/winter, water new plants through the fall and, when the temperature is mild, through January and February. Watering 1 or 2 times in January and February can make the difference in the health of your plant.