



## Springhouse Gardens Planting Recommendations

- **Amend soil** – If poor soil, use up to 30% amendment to 70% existing soil.
- **Find root flare or first major root** – Remove any twine, string or strapping material; pull back burlap and remove any excess soil off of the top of the root ball.
- **For B&B material** – Cut top rung of wire cage, remove it or bend down into planting hole. (Be careful if removing basket as root ball can break up.) Roots will go through wire basket so it will not inhibit growth.
- **For Container material** – Score root ball down sides from top to bottom in at least three places and the bottom of the ball. Tease the roots to loosen them up and encourage new root growth.
- **Staking** – Is not generally recommended but may be necessary in windy locations or when planting a top heavy tree. If necessary, do not stake for more than one year. Check to make sure staking material is not rubbing, cutting or gouging into the trunk.
- **Mulching** – Mulch should be no more than 2-3" deep with no mulch or soil up against the trunk.