

TLC for Trees



GIVE YOUR
TREE A HUG
OFTEN!

- Water your newly planted tree deeply (5 gallons or more) weekly for the first year. Check with a local expert for a long-term watering schedule in your area.
- Keep grass, flowers, ivy, weeds or other plants out of the dam for at least three years.
- Give your tree a hug often and check its health. Ask an expert about pruning and feeding your species of tree or if it seems sick.
- Remove the stakes when the tree is strong enough to stand up alone (about one year).
- You will also want to mulch your trees. Mulch insulates the ground, decreases the number of weeds, keeps moisture in, encourages earthworms to live there (which helps get oxygen to the roots), keeps grass and lawn mowers away, and nourishes the soil. The mulch should be 4-6 inches high around your trees. To keep the bark from rotting, do not let the mulch touch the trunk. Good mulching materials include: wood chips, sawdust, hay or straw, pine needles, and tea grounds.
- Both people and trees grow up strongest when they are close to members of their family. Trees of the same species take care of each other with root networks or by sending help through the soil—larger trees pass nutrients to smaller, weaker trees. Three or more trees of the same species forms a grove. Consider giving your new tree a few tree friends — get your Grove on!



Partners for
the Planet

Through its *Partners for the Planet* Network, **TREE MUSKETEERS** offers a vehicle for kids to function as the international youth environmental movement through: Hotline, Website, Speakers Bureau, Newsletter, Resource Sharing, How-to Kits and Youth Campaigns.

WWW.PARTNERSFORTHEPLANET.ORG - PH: 1-310-322-0263/1-800-473-0263