

# YEARLY TREE CARE GUIDE

A SEASON-BY-SEASON GUIDE FOR TREE OWNERS

USE THIS GUIDE TO HELP CARE FOR AND MAINTAIN THE TREES YOU HAVE PLANTED ON A YEARLY,  
SEASONAL AND MONTHLY BASIS TO ENSURE THEY GROW AND LIVE A LONG, HEALTHY LIFE.

TEN MILL<sup>10</sup>N  
TREES  
FOR PENNSYLVANIA



TENMILLIONTREES.ORG

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## WINTER & SPRING

### JANUARY - APRIL:

- After frost season has ended, fix any down, damaged, or leaning trees, tree shelters, and stakes. Redrive stakes into ground and replace broken or rotten stakes, and secure zip ties.
- Check and reseal tree shelters to ensure the bottoms are 1 to 2 inches below the ground surface.
- Order trees, tree shelters, and stakes for spring replanting. Order early!

### MARCH - MAY:

- Replant trees/shrubs and install or reuse tree shelters if you did not replant last fall.

### APRIL - JUNE:

- Mark and tally any missing or obviously dead trees for future replanting in fall or the following spring.
- Mow as needed between trees.
- Remove weeds around the perimeter of the seedling that may be competing for nutrients.
- Inspect for toxic and invasive weeds, and remove/control where appropriate.



### MULCHING & PRUNING:

- Mulch out to the drip line, which is directly below the canopy of the tree.
- Don't mulch up to the tree, leave a few inches of space around the trunk exposed and allow it to breathe.
- Mulch only 2 to 3 inches deep.
- Winter is the best time to prune your trees. Avoid pruning during the growing season.



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## SUMMER & FALL

### JULY - AUGUST:

- Control toxic and invasive weeds.

### SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER:

- Fix any down, damaged, or leaning trees, tree shelters, and stakes. Redrive stakes into ground and replace broken or rotten stakes, and secure zip ties.
- Check and reseal tree shelters to ensure the bottoms are 1 to 2 inches below the ground surface.
- Inspect for toxic and invasive weeds, and remove/control where appropriate.
- Mark and tally any missing or obviously dead trees for future replanting (fall or following spring).
- Order trees, tree shelters, and stakes for fall replanting. Order early!

### OCTOBER - NOVEMBER:

- Replant trees/shrubs and install or reuse tree shelters if you did not replant the previous spring.

### MULCHING & PRUNING:

- Mulch out to the drip line, which is directly below the canopy of the tree.
- Don't mulch up to the tree, leave a few inches of space around the trunk exposed and allow it to breathe.
- Mulch only 2 to 3 inches deep.
- Winter is the best time to prune your trees. Avoid pruning during the growing season.



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