

western serviceberry, Amelanchier alnifolia

Western serviceberry is a terrific four season small residential tree. It has very showy white flowers in the spring, edible Saskatoon berry fruit in the summer and tangerine orange fall colour. The maximum height is 15 feet, it is drought tolerant and will grow in a wide variety of soil conditions. Western serviceberry is an excellent choice for attracting birds and pollinators.





shore pine, Pinus contorta

Shore pine is a slow growing native conifer with a lot of character. This species is very suitable for pruning to create an artistically formed specimen for the garden. It is a perfect species for Richmond because, unlike many other pines, it is well adapted to a high water table in the winter and dry soils in the summer.





paper birch, Betula papyrifera

Paper birch is a small native tree that displays crisp white outer bark that peels away in attractive sheets revealing copper and sandalwood colours. The combination of the white bark and golden yellow leaves is a nice addition to the autumn landscape. Needless to say, with the extraordinary bark, paper birch is an excellent winter specimen.





Garry Oak, Quercus garryana

Garry oak is a medium size drought tolerant tree native to the Cascadia bioregion and is found naturally growing on drier parts of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. It is the keystone species of Garry oak ecosystems, which are revered for meadows of spring flowers including plants such as camas lily, sea blush and shootingstar. Garry oaks are character trees that feature an attractive growth habit and interesting bark texture. An unexpected surprise are the pendulous catkins that are a cheerful chartreuse colour when they flower in the early spring.





Oregon ash, Fraxinus latifolia

Oregon ash is a native to the Cascadia bioregion and is red-listed in BC, which means that its population on Vancouver Island is endangered. It is perfectly well suited to poorly drained areas in Richmond that have a high water table. Even though Oregon ash will grow in areas that are too wet for most other tree species, it is also adapted to survive periods of summer drought. Oregon ash has attractive compound leaves which turn bright yellow in the fall.





Sitka willow, Salix sitchensis

Sitka willow is a small native tree that will thrive in areas of Richmond that have a high water table and poorly drained soil. It produces fuzzy "pussy willow" flowers in March and April that fascinate children and attract early pollinators. One great attribute of Sitka willow is that if it gets too tall, it can be pruned to the ground after the catkins are finished and it will regenerate new growth.





apple, Malus domestica

There will be a mix of apple tree varieties available on a first come first serve basis. These apple varieties will all be suitable for the home garden and can be grown as a tree form or specialty pruned as an espalier. Apples will perform best in an open sunny location and can also be grown in a container. As well as producing fruit in the summer, apple trees have beautiful blossoms in the spring.





sweet cherries, Prunus avium

There will be a mix of sweet cherry trees available on a first come first serve basis. These fruiting cherry trees will perform best in an open sunny location in terrestrial soil. As well as producing fruit in the summer, sweet cherry trees have beautiful blossoms in the spring.



- 1. Dig a hole 3 to 4 times wider than the container. The hole should have sloping sides like a saucer to allow for proper root growth.
- 2. Carefully remove the tree from the container keeping the soil around the roots intact. It helps to tap the outside of the container to loosen the edge. Carefully slide the tree from the container. Don't yank the tree out of the container as this can separate the roots from the tree.
- 3. Sometimes containerized trees become root-bound or the roots look like they're about to circle the root ball. If your tree is like this, cut an X across the bottom of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides of the root ball with a sharp knife.



4. Set the tree in the middle of the hole. Avoid planting the tree too deep. If the root collar sits below the top of the hole, compact some soil under the tree so that the root flare at the base of the trunk is slightly above ground level. Using some soil, secure the tree in a straight position, then fill and firmly pack the hole with the original soil, making sure there aren't any air pockets. Keep backfilling until the soil is just below the root collar.

Proper Mulching

Mulch is a newly planted tree's best friend because it:

- 1. Insulates the soil, helping to provide a buffer from heat and cold.
- 2. Retains water to help the roots stay moist.
- 3. Keeps weeds out to avoid root competition.
- 4. Prevents soil compaction.
- 5. Reduces lawn mower damage.

Tree Watering

Tree watering is a key part of tree care, but it is difficult to recommend an exact amount due to the variety of climates. A few guidelines will help you to water your trees properly.

Watering Newly Planted Trees

For new trees, water immediately after you plant a tree. Usually 30 seconds with a steady stream of water from a garden hose w/ a diffuser nozzle per tree seedling is sufficient.

Watering Trees During First Two Years

During the first couple growing seasons, your newly planted tree is expending a lot of energy trying to get its roots established in the soil. Especially during the first few summers of your new trees life, it will have a difficult time dealing with heat and drought. You can make this easier by providing water and covering the soil with wood-chip mulch. Deep watering can help speed the root establishment. Deep water consists of keeping the soil moist to a depth that includes all the roots. 5. Create a water-holding basin around the hole and give the tree a good watering. After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch 2–4 inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.



6. The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water

the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

7. Remove any tags and labels from the tree as these will affect the tree as it grows. You may need to prune any broken or dead branches. (Please refer to the **arborday.org** pruning guide.)

Fertilizer?

Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your newly planted trees. Such products will kill your young trees.

Watering: See watering directions below.

To learn more and watch informative "How To" videos, visit www.arborday.org/trees/planting/containerized.cfm

Steps to Adding Mulch Around Your Tree

- 1. Remove any grass within a 3-foot area (up to 10 feet for larger tree).
- 2. Pour natural mulch such as wood chips or bark pieces 2 to 4 inches deep within the circle.
- 3. Keep the mulch from touching the trunk of the tree.

How Much Water and When

Not enough water is harmful for the tree, but too much water is bad as well. Over-watering is a common tree care mistake. Please note that moist is different than soggy, and you can judge this by feel. A damp soil that dries for a short period will allow adequate oxygen to permeate the soil.

You can check soil moisture by using a garden trowel and inserting it into the ground to a depth of 2", and then move the blade of the trowel back and forth to create a small narrow trench. Then use your finger to touch the soil. If it is moist to the touch, then they do not need water.

