

Tree Planting and Maintenance Guide

More Trees for a Cooler, Greener West



How to get the best from your new plants!

Care before planting:

- Plants will require **daily watering** once received, until planted.
- Monitor plants for any signs of distress and if major issues are encountered, please contact EEV or DEECA as soon as possible.

Planting and maintenance:

- Ensure you are giving plants adequate spacing (check each species' requirements). Lower storey species can be planted closer together, but upper storey trees may need at least 5m spacing from other upper storey plantings.
- To remove your plant from the tube, **don't pull the plant stem as this could break the plant**. Tap and squeeze the tube to loosen the plant instead.
- It is not necessary to 'tease' the root system, this will stress and potentially kill the plant.
- Gently place tubestock into pre-dug hole, creating a small depression/well around the plant that will collect water.
- **Carefully feed tree guard over tubestock**, being mindful to not break off limbs. This may require some coaxing!
- Once planted, water each day for the first 2 – 3 weeks, unless it is raining.
- For the next month or so, taper off to watering every 2 or 3 days.
- After your plant settles in, observe the soil or if the plant looks like it is wilting, and water as needed.
- Mulch is a great way to help retain moisture, adds organic matter, and keeps the weeds at bay. If you have access to mulch, this is highly recommended.

Disposal:

- The plastic tubestock and crates are re-usable. If possible, please organise for these to be returned to BILI Nursery. Located at 525 Williamstown Rd, Port Melbourne VIC 3207.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Environment Education Victoria (EEV) at silkom@eev.vic.edu.au, or visit their [website](#).

Alternatively, feel free to reach out to DEECA's *More Trees for a Cooler, Greener West* team at Open.Space@delwp.vic.gov.au.