

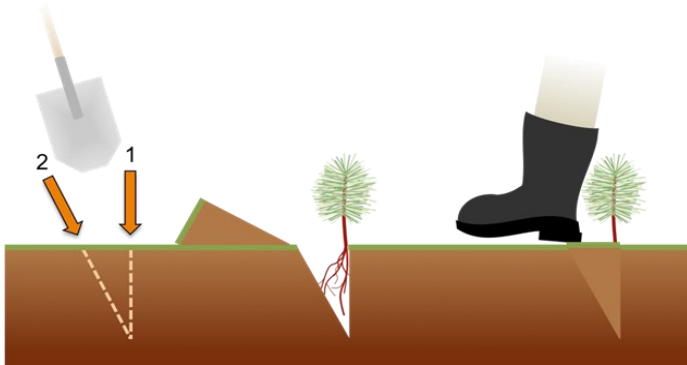
*Thank you for participating in the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network's spring tree planting program.  
Please read through this info sheet to ensure proper handling and planting of your seedlings!*

## Handling of all Tree Seedlings:

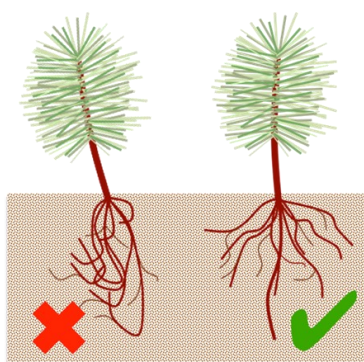
Plant your seedlings as soon as possible! While preparing for planting, store your seedlings in a cool, moist place. **Do not expose** unplanted seedlings to wind, direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, or contaminants (herbicides, fuels, etc.).

You want to avoid any drying or damage to the roots, and should avoid handling the seedlings until you are ready to plant them. Do not remove more than three to four seedling at a time when hand planting to minimize root drying, and **handle the roots as minimally as possible.**

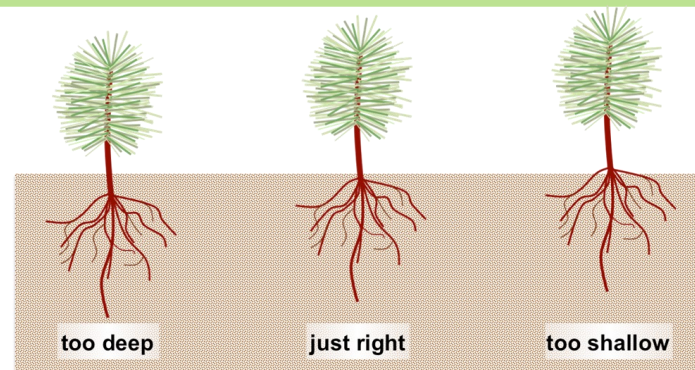
**Coniferous:** evergreen trees having usually needle-shaped or scale like leaves . Including Pine, Spruce, Cedar seedlings



To plant, cut straight down with a shovel, and then cut in at an angle to form a wedge. Remove the wedge. Place the seedling upright against the vertical side of the hole, gently fanning and extending the roots downwards. Carefully slide the soil wedge back into hole while supporting the seedling, and firm the earth with by gently stepping down around the seedling. If the weather is dry, be sure to water!



The roots should not curl or tangle. Pack the earth tightly around your seedling to eliminate air pockets. Your seedling should not move upwards when tugged gently. We recommend planting trees at least eight feet apart to account for future growth.



Be sure to plant your seedlings at the proper depth, with the root collar just below the soil surface. Ensure that your hole is deep enough and wide enough to accommodate the seedling's entire roots system.

***Flip me over!***

## Plant Spacing for Reforestation or Wind breaks:

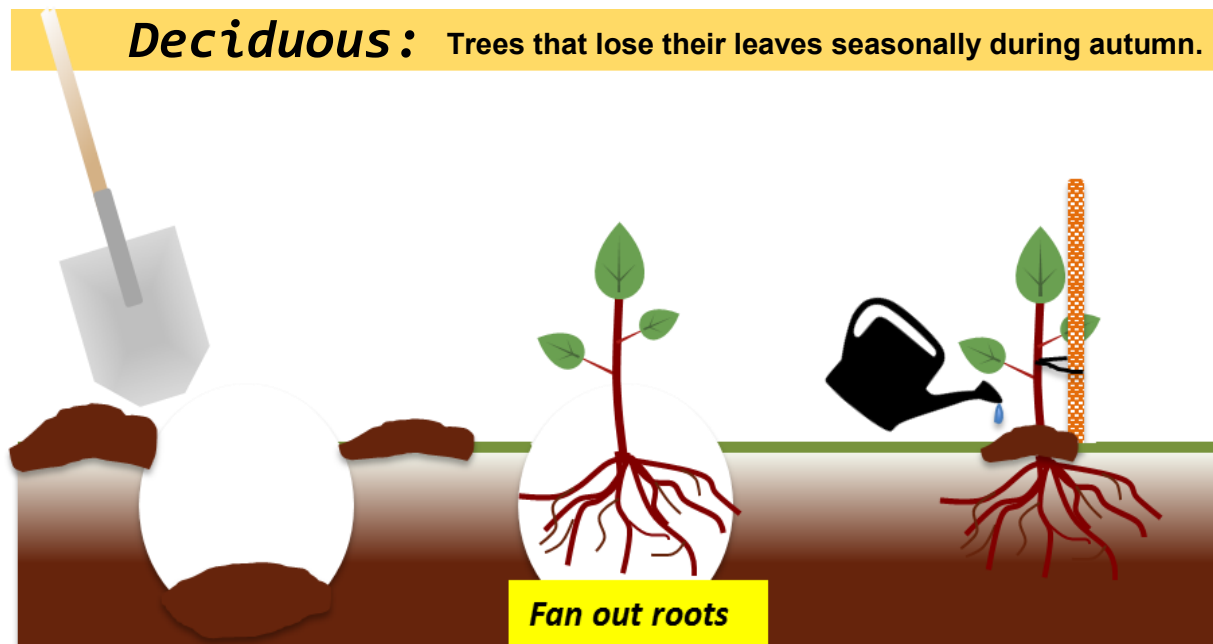
Plant your seedlings between 8-10 feet apart when creating a reforestation area, or a line of trees to serve as a wind-break along your property line. Avoid creating hazardous blind corners by planting no closer than 20 feet to the main road.

## Watering and Protecting your Newly Planted Seedlings:

Watering: Newly planted trees should be watered at the time of planting. During the first growing season, they should be watered at least once a week in the absence of rain, more often during the height of the summer. Regular deep soakings are better than frequent light wettings. Moisture should reach a depth of 12 to 18 inches below the soil surface .

Protection for Deciduous seedlings: It is helpful for the new seedlings to have support by inserting a “stake” beside the seedling and securing the seedling to the stake. Using tubex (if available) to surround the seedling helps protect it from insects and competition from other native plants and grasses.

***Deciduous:*** Trees that lose their leaves seasonally during autumn. Including Maple, Ash, Birch, Walnut, Oak.



Dig a planting hole wider than the root width and slightly deeper than the length of the roots. Build a small mound of soil in the center of the hole. Roots should be spread and distributed over the mound. Backfill about three-quarters of the hole and lightly pack the soil to remove any air pockets. Water the tree to promote good contact between roots and soil. Finish filling the hole and pack the soil slightly. Water thoroughly. Soil that is highly compacted decreases the roots ability to exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Beneficial Options: apply mulch around newly planted trees. Secure a stake into the ground and tie to the tree. If available, a tubex tube can be inserted over the seedling and then secured to the stake.