

Planting Evergreen Rhododendrons

Before Digging

To prevent injury while planting in your landscape, contact Gopher One at (651) 454-0002 to have underground utilities marked.

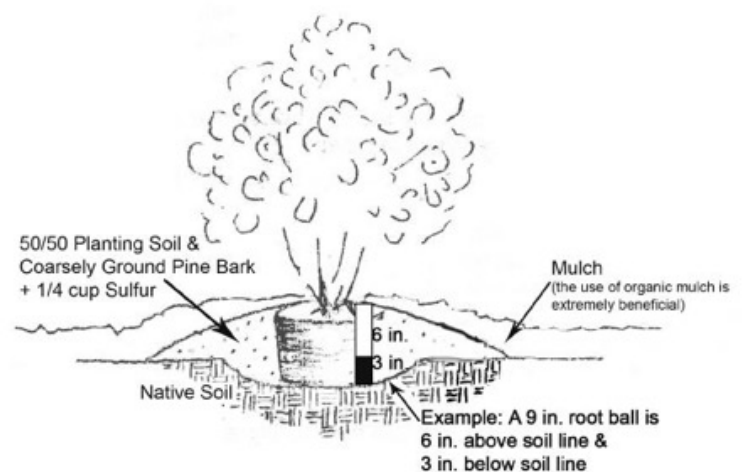
Materials

These materials can be found at any of Bachman's six stores or online at www.bachmans.com.

- Coarse Ground Pine Bark: Bed Builder (Normiska)
- Soil Sulfur: (HY-Yield)
- Cypress Wood Mulch (Bachman's)

Installation

1. Dig a hole a minimum of 10 inches wider than the root ball's diameter and a third of the depth of the root ball. For example, for a 9-inch tall root ball, the hole should only be 3 inches deep. This ensures the high planting needed for rhododendrons.
2. Rhododendrons typically have a very fibrous root system and must be checked for encircling roots. Rough up the roots to break them from their circling pattern. If circling roots are heavy, cut 1 inch into the root ball. Do this down three sides of the ball.
3. Set the root ball in the hole and backfill/mound with a 50/50 mix of loamy soil and coarse ground pine bark. Do not use existing soil. In addition, a ¼ cup of soil sulfur should be added during backfilling to acidify the soil's pH. Ensure this special mix of soil and fertilizer is in the top third of the backfill so that it's easily utilized by the plant.
4. On the outer edge of the plant or drip line, start to build your soil saucer. Use soil that won't easily be washed away (pulverized clay works well). Pack the soil compactly so water won't be able to erode through it.
5. Once backfilling is complete and the saucer is built, place the hose inside the saucer and fill slowly, allowing the water to seep in deeply. When the saucer has been filled with water, turn off your hose.
6. Add mulch after watering to help maintain the moisture around the plant.



Still have questions? See us online or give us a call.

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