

WATERING

WATERING YOUR TREE DURING CONSTRUCTION



90% of the fine, absorbing roots critical to the tree's survival are in the upper 6 to 12 inches of soil and extend much farther than the drip line.

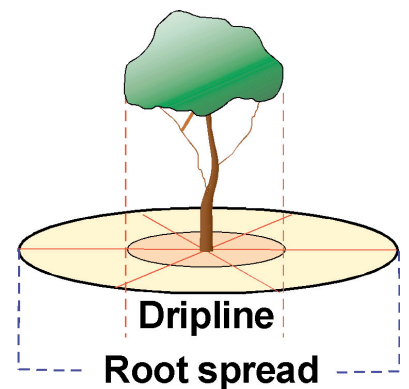
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO WATER DURING CONSTRUCTION?

Construction activities alter the amounts of water normally used by trees. It is important to know where tree roots are located. Trees should be watered to a depth of 8-10 inches at the dripline and beyond every month until seasonal rains are adequate. Thoroughly water trees before and immediately after they receive any kind of direct damage (e.g., severed roots). The best way to do this is with a soaker hose available at most nurseries or hardware stores. These hoses weep water at a slow rate and may need to be left on for 24 hours depending on the soil, to reach the depth needed. Two to four inches of mulch (wood chips or bark) spread over as much of the root system as practical will help the tree retain water and stimulate root regeneration. Don't pile mulch around the tree's trunk.



SOAKER HOSE

Soaker Hose in Concentric Circles Around a New Tree



graphic courtesy of CAES

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handout courtesy of The Manhattan Canopy Tree Committee
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