



## **DEER / WILDLIFE TREES**

### **Planting Instructions: *DO's* and *DON'Ts***

#### ***DO's***

- Make sure the site location has full sun.
- Make sure the site location has good drainage.
- Make sure to dig the hole twice the size as the root ball. Spread the roots on the bottom of the hole.
- Backfill hole with quality soil / mix in sand / bag of topsoil if clay. Water well.
- Make sure to keep the union / graft 3" - 5" above the soil.
- Water your fruit tree 1-2 times a week for the first year.
- Make sure that you keep weed competition to a minimum.
- Protect your tree from rabbits, voles, field mice with a tree wrap or aluminum window screen around the base.
- Fence your fruit trees with a 5' welded wire fence if you have high deer density and two T - posts. Deer will eat and destroy your trees overnight.
- NEVER fertilize fruit trees the first year. 2nd year it's OK to fertilize with Miracle Grow or 10-10-10 once a month. Start at bud break and end in August, never fertilize past August.
- Mulch fruit trees if possible to help hold moisture if watering is not possible weekly and limit weed growth.

#### ***DON'Ts***

- Do not plant fruit trees in consistent wet ground or prone to flooding. Fruit trees do not like wet feet.

