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Transplanting Tips - Irrigation Requirements

Size of nursery stock	Irrigation schedule for vigor see notes 1,3	Irrigation schedule for survival see notes 2,3,4
< 2 inch caliper	Daily for 2 weeks; every other day for 2 months; weekly until established.	Twice weekly for 2-3 months
2-4 inch caliper	Daily for 1 month; every other day for 3 months; weekly until established.	Twice weekly for 3-4 months
> 4 inch caliper	Daily for 6 weeks; every other day for 5 months; weekly until established.	Twice weekly for 4-5 months

1. Delete daily irrigation when planting in winter. Irrigation frequency can be reduced slightly (e.g. 2-3 times each week instead of every other day) when planting hardened-off, field-grown trees that were root-pruned during production. Establishment takes 3 (hardiness zones 10-11) to 4 (hardiness zones 8-9) months per inch trunk caliper.
 2. Irrigation frequency can be reduced slightly (e.g. to once or twice each week) when planting hardened-off, field-grown trees that were root-pruned during production.
 3. At each irrigation, apply 2-3 gallons per inch trunk caliper to the root ball. Apply it in a manner so all water soaks into the root ball. Do not water if root ball is wet/saturated on the irrigation day.
 4. Trees take much longer to establish than 3-4 months per inch trunk caliper. Irrigate in drought the following summer.
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