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## Tips & Tricks for Planting Chestnut Trees, Sawtooth & Other Oaks -- When Not Using Grow Tubes

# Basic Tree Planting Tips



We sell trees all year long but many customers purchase in the winter when the trees are dormant. Visit [unitedchestnuts.com](http://unitedchestnuts.com) for more info.

We love using grow bags for our trees. This makes it easy for you to transport and plant your new trees.

You can put the bagged tree on a paint can or five gallon bucket and pull the bag downward to remove it. Helps to make sure it's wet. Now it's reusable.

Or simply cut the bag off.





## Dig The Holes

Whether digging the hole for your tree by hand or with equipment, dig it just deep enough for the tree to be at the top of the hole. In other words, dig the hole no deeper than the height of the root ball.

Work to create the hole to twice the size of the root ball in diameter or about 4" larger than the root ball. Loosen the soil as much as possible to help the little roots begin to grow.





### Remove Grow Bag or Pot

Once the hole is prepared, remove the tree from the grow bag or plastic pot and set it in the hole.

As you add dirt, add water too, if possible, and agitate it to remove air pockets. Continue this process until the hole is filled in on top of the root ball.

If you don't add water, once covered with dirt, pack it with the heel of your boot.

Look for videos coming to our YouTube channel soon.





## Protect The Tree

To stabilize and protect the trees from wildlife, it's best to cage and stake the tree. We use wire baskets, rebar, & cover with black plastic corrugated pipe.

Drive the rebar(or T post) into the ground several inches deep or until secured.

We start with a 4" piece of PVC pipe and wrap about 16" of wire around it. The finished basket should be about 6" in diameter. We found this saves on wire. Place the basket over the tree.

We may have these supplies for you or you may prefer to assemble:

- Black Corrugated Plastic Pipe
- Rebar - 3/8" (we purchase 20' sections and cut into three 80.5" sticks) or T post
- 6' Wire Basket that's about 6" diameter



We use a tall piece of black pipe to protect chestnuts from chemicals and wildlife.



We use a small piece of black pipe to protect Sawtooth from chemicals & critters.



## Finishing Up

Use a small piece of wire to tie the wire basket to the rebar.

During the Spring as leaves begin to develop, we add a handful of Triple 19 for our Sawtooth oaks and 10.10.10 for chestnuts trees to fertilize. The trees are fertilized while in the nursery.

And during the summer, on a calm day, you will likely want to spray for weeds around the trees. The black pipe will protect the tree. Use a glyphosate herbicide and spray a 3' to 4' circumference. We like Ranger Pro.





## Finishing Up

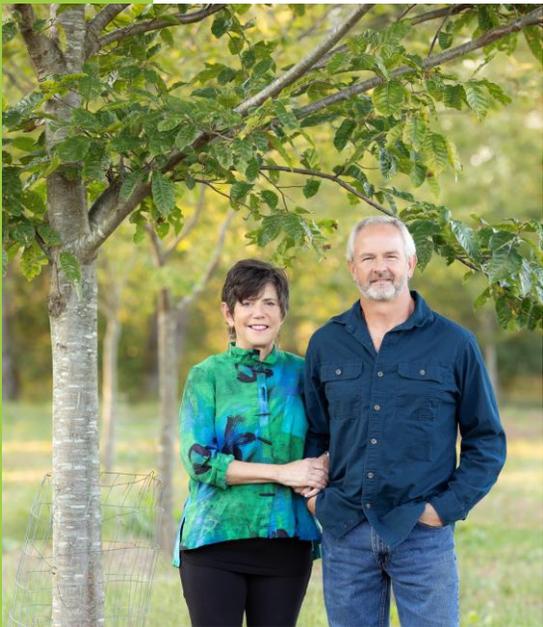
One trick, take your black grow bag and cut the bag around the sides, peel the bottom off and cut the outside into two long strips.

Then affix to the top of the basket by using wire or zip ties.

It helps ensure the tree doesn't rub against the wire basket.

Now it's ready to grow.





We are working hard to support growth of the chestnut industry. If this interests you, consider:

- Subscribing to the United Chestnuts weekly blog
- Follow the Branching Out podcast hosted by United Chestnuts on YouTube, Spotify, Audible etc.
- Join the United Chestnuts Community group on Facebook to learn and contribute
- Subscribe to our quarterly update at [unitechstnuts.com](http://unitechstnuts.com)

Enjoy! - Brad & Melanie

#chestnuttrees #chestnuts #sawtoothoaks #fastgrowingtrees  
#landowners #deerhunters #foodplots #farmlife #UMCAPQK  
#chestnutgrowers #agroforestry

## BRANCHING OUT PODCAST & WEEKLY CHESTNUT INDUSTRY BLOG!

It's a very exciting time in the chestnut industry! New and experienced growers are working diligently to re-establish the trees and the delicious and healthful nut product. Join us in the journey.

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October 13, 2023 | Chestnut Community, Chestnut Nuts, Chestnut Recipes, Healthful Super food!, United Chestnuts



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Exploring the World of Chestnuts, One Branch at a Time.



Melanie Jones  
(Host)



Greg Miller, PhD  
(Empire Chestnuts)



Branching Out featuring Melanie Jones and Greg Miller