

## Planting and Care of Herbs and Native Plants

1. Dig a hole as deep as the pot but at least twice as wide.
2. Toss in some organic fertilizer.
3. Gently remove the plant (gently squeeze sides of pot and lift plant out by base of stem) - (or see if it will tip out into your hand and you can cradle the root ball.
4. Place the plant in the hole so that the base of the stem is level with the ground. You may have to make the hole a little shallower—just push some the dirt back into to raise the bottom.
5. Gently pack the dirt you dug out back around your plant.
6. Gently water in (I like to use a watering can), and I recommend you add a liquid seaweed/kelp fertilizer to the water. Herbs and natives shouldn't need any fertilizer after initial planting.
7. A new plant needs a little TLC until it's established, so keep an eye on it, and water it well, at least once a week (unless we get a good rain (1/2" or more), then you can skip it).
8. Notes on natives: You may need to water native plants the first couple of years until they're established. After that they should be great on their own unless we have a severe drought. For most natives, you won't need to worry about freeze protection in the winter; remember they evolved to survive in this area; but for new or little plants you can pile up mulch over them in a hard freeze, then brush or kick the mulch to the side after the freeze.

