

# IN-GROUND PLANTING GUIDE

The best time to plant is during fall or early spring. Getting plants off to a great start, even during summertime, can reduce stress and make your job much easier!

1

**Dig a hole** twice as wide and just as deep as the plant's container. Fill the hole with water twice and allow to drain; may take one or more hours to drain from large holes in clay soil.



2

**Amend native soil** with *G&B Soil Building Conditioner* or *Malibu Compost* (quantity depends on native soil quality). Mix in *G&B Starter Fertilizer*; see product label for details.



3

**Remove the plant from its pot and loosen up roots by hand.** If presoaked, the wet root ball should be easier to loosen. If severely compacted, use a sharp knife to create a few horizontal cuts to help break up the root ball.



4

**Place the plant in the hole and backfill** with amended soil and starter fertilizer. Keep the new soil line level with soil from the original container.



5

**Water thoroughly.** If plant is presoaked, water with soaking solution and additional water, as needed. In spring/summer, water regularly and use root stimulator (*Malibu Compost Tea*, *Bonide Root & Grow*, *B1 Vitamin*) monthly during growing season. During fall, water regularly when rainfall is sparse.



## TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN EXTREME CONDITIONS

**PRESOAK:** Before planting in hot weather, presoak potted plant in water and *compost tea*, *root stimulator*, or *transplant shock reducer*; ensures roots are hydrated and soil has enough moisture to encourage root growth.

**MULCH:** Apply 2–3 inches of mulch (*G&B Soil Building Conditioner*) to beds to insulate roots, reduce moisture loss, conserve water, and decrease heat stress on plants. Keep mulch 4–6 inches away from bases of plants.

**PROTECT:** Protect tender plants with *shade/frost cloth*, *Harvest Guard*, *burlap*, or *sheets*. Temporary shade helps plants adjust and keeps them happy during intense heat. Young trees may need staking if exposed to wind.