

American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)

- I am a medium to large native tree reaching up to 100 feet tall.
- My fruit is a nut with a spiny husk that is enjoyed by lots of wildlife.
- I grow slow, tolerate shade, and wet or drier soils.
- I can form thickets by sprouting new trunks from my roots.
- I provide food and nesting sites for birds and mammals in your garden.

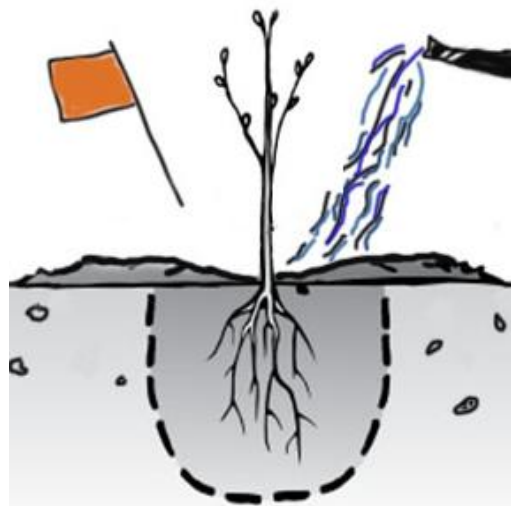


Source: <https://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/factsheets.cfm>

See <https://mgnv.org/plants/> for more native plant info.

How to plant me

- Plant me right away, and be sure my roots stay moist and cool until planted.
- Dig a hole slightly deeper and wider than my roots.
- Make sure my main root is straight down, the top of my roots is even with the soil surface, and no roots are curled or bent.
- Gently pack soil around me with your foot.
- Mark me with a flag and/or stake.
- Water my roots thoroughly (there is no magic amount, but the top 6 inches of soil should feel moist).
- Add 2 inches of mulch, but not piled around my trunk! Don't make a volcano out of the mulch!



How to care for me

- Keep me marked with a flag or stake and mow carefully near me!
- If needed, protect me from pests like deer and rabbits. Add a wire, clear plastic, or other type of tube for protection.
- Do not fertilize me!
- **Give me one inch of water every week!**
- I will need more water if we have a hot or dry spell.

Source: <https://www.sites.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/4hpubs/pdfs/390-070.pdf>