How to Hand Plant Bare-root Trees

December 2013
Towner State Nursery

For more information visit our website at www.ndsu.edu/ndfs or contact your nearest North Dakota Forest Service:

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  Phone: (701) 228-5422

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  Towner, ND 58788
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  Lisbon, ND 58054
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  Carrington, ND 58421
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- **ND Forest Service**
  916 E Interstate Ave, Suite #4
  Bismarck, ND 58503
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- **ND Forest Service**
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  Jamestown, ND 58401
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**Before Planting**

- Store the packaged trees in a cool location.
- Check packages occasionally to see that the roots remain moist.
- Keep storage time to a minimum.

**Planting Instructions**

- Open the package of trees and place the trees in a pail of water. Use the pail to carry the trees to the planting site. This will keep the roots moist while the trees await planting.
- Do not leave trees in a pail of water more than a few hours.
- Dig a hole large enough to accommodate the root system of the tree.
- Hold the tree erect and spread out the roots and fill in the hole with good soil. Pack the soil firmly around the tree with your hands. Plant the tree at the same depth it grew in the nursery.
- Leave a shallow depression around each tree to hold water. Water the tree thoroughly after planting to settle the soil around the roots. Water about once a week for the first year.
- Keep tree plantings free of weeds.