



PLANTING NATIVE SHRUBS IN YOUR YARD

Native shrubs like American hazelnut, wild plum, and ninebark are beautiful, low-maintenance, and support local pollinators and wildlife.

Here's how to plant them safely and successfully:

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. CHOOSE THE RIGHT SPOT

- Full to partial sun
- Well-drained soil
- Allow space for mature growth

2. CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

- Call 811 or visit IowaOneCall.com at least 2 business days before digging
- Utility lines will be marked for free

3. PREPARE THE HOLE

- Dig a hole twice as wide and as deep as the root ball
- Loosen soil at the bottom and remove grass, weeds, and rocks

4. PLANT THE SHRUB

- Remove container or burlap
- Gently loosen roots
- Set plant so the top of the root ball is level with the ground
- Backfill with original soil and gently tamp down

5. WATER THOROUGHLY

- Water immediately after planting
- Keep soil moist (not soggy) for the first year
- Water on the edge of mulch ring

6. MULCH WISELY

- Apply 2–3 inches of mulch around the base
- Keep mulch a few inches away from the stem

7. ONGOING CARE

- Water weekly in the first 2 years
- Minimal pruning needed
- Watch for pests or disease

SAFETY & HAZARD PREVENTION

- Call 811 to mark underground utilities
- Wear gloves, long sleeves, and sturdy shoes
- Be aware of ticks, bees, and hidden wildlife
- Use safe, sharp tools to avoid strain or injury
- Wear eye protection if using power tools

For more resources or help with your planting, contact: info@buroaklandtrust.org

Shrubs should be planted in the ground or in pots as soon as possible and watered to prevent the roots from drying out.

Each shrub is labeled with a tag to indicate the species. Planting specifics below (sourced from Iowa DNR):



1. ARONIA BERRY

(*Aronia melanocarpa*)

- Height: 4-10'
- Spread: 4-6'
- Soil: Wet to drier soils, well-drained
- Sun: Full sun or shade



2. ARROWWOOD VIBURNUM

(*Viburnum recognitum*)

- Height: 8-15'
- Spread: 8-10'
- Soil: Dry to wet
- Sun: Sun or partial shade



3. HAZELNUT

(*Corylus americana*)

- Height: 8-10'
- Spread: 8-12'
- Soil: Moist to well-drained
- Sun: Full sun to slight shade



4. NINEBARK

(*Physocarpus opulifolius*)

- Height: 5-10'
- Spread: 4-6'
- Soil: Moist to moderately dry, alkaline or clay soils
- Sun: Full sun to partial shade



5. SERVICEBERRY

(*Amelanchier arborea*)

- Height: 6-20'
- Spread: 6-20'
- Soil: Moist to well-drained, acidic soil
- Sun: Full sun or partial shade



6. WILD PLUM

(*Prunus americana*)

- Height: 10-15'
- Spread: 10-15'
- Soil: Rich, moist to well-drained, acid
- Sun: Full sun to slight shade