



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 a video on shrub planting, visit youtube.com/watch?v=SUUbtaSizE8