Six things you should know when planting a tree.

1. Call Before You Dig - Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. Handle with Care - Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. Digging a Proper Hole - Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. Planting Depth - The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the topmost roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. Filling the Hole - Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. Mulch - Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit arborday.org.

Source: Arbor Day Foundation