

# Community Roots

Caring about our communities goes beyond providing safe, reliable electric service.

The Community Roots tree giveaway program is one way PPL Electric Utilities is giving back to the places it serves and the people who live there. It's meant to beautify the places where we live, work and play.

Our goal here is big – we want to give away up to 50,000 trees annually.

Trees beautify our neighborhoods and help reduce our carbon footprint.

Learn more about Community Roots at [www.pplcommunityroots.com](http://www.pplcommunityroots.com).



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

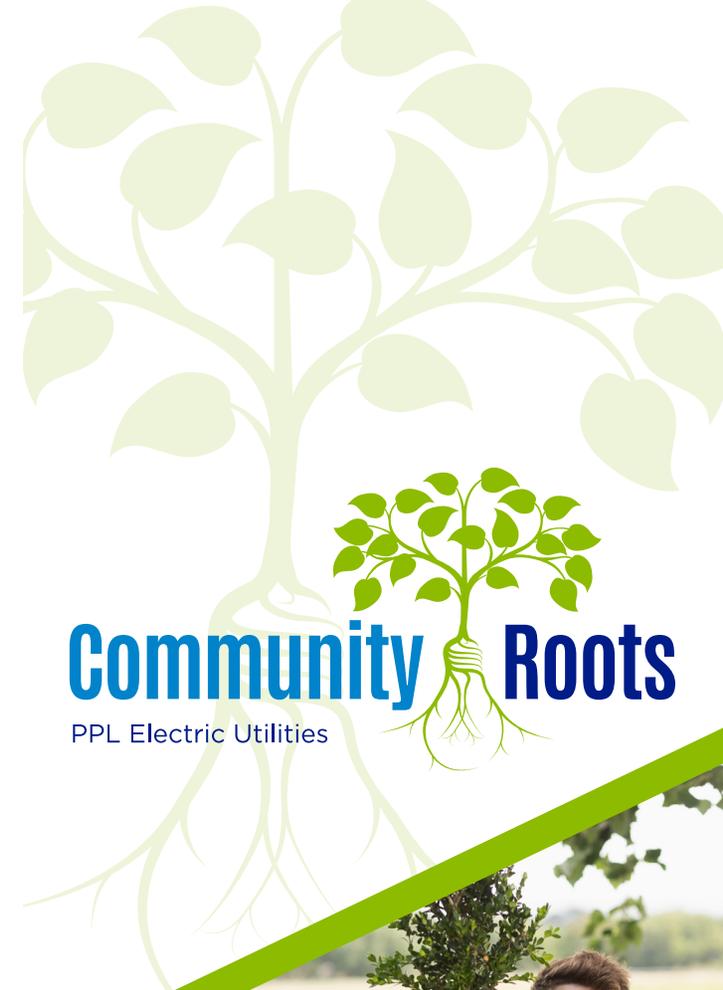


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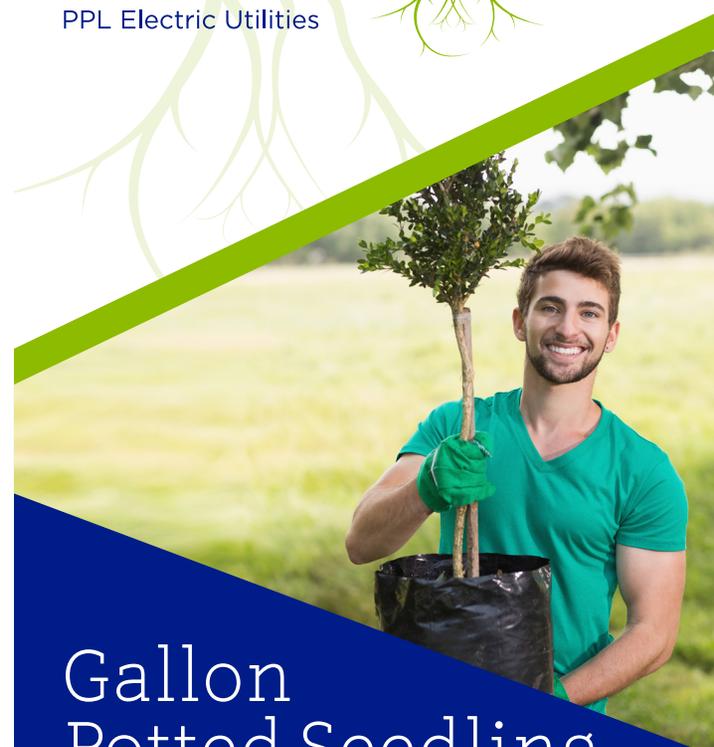
**YOU DEPEND ON US. WE DELIVER.**

PPL Electric Utilities  
1-800-342-5775 (1-800-DIAL-PPL)

[www.pplcommunityroots.com](http://www.pplcommunityroots.com)



PPL Electric Utilities



# Gallon Potted Seedling Planting Guide

## PLANNING

1. Tree roots must be kept moist until planting. Store in a cool location and add water to moisten the roots as needed until planting.
2. Plan the locations and spacing of where you will plant your trees.

**Locations:** Moderate conditions are best, where soils are neither too wet nor rocky. Certain species are more tolerant to wetter conditions. Check the Species Guides for the species of trees you will be planting for additional information. **Do not plant trees under power lines or other overhead utility lines or over underground lines.**

**Spacing:** Recommended spacing is 10-15 feet for small/medium sized species and 20-30 feet for medium/large species. Keep a distance of 15-20 feet from houses or other structures. In some situations, like at parks or schools, arranging the trees at an even spacing and in straight lines may be preferred. In other situations, a slightly uneven spacing, a random planting pattern, and a mixture of species gives a more natural appearance. Check the Species Guides for the species of trees you will be planting for additional information.

3. Fertilizers, potting soil, and chemicals will not be needed.
4. Mulch (shredded bark or wood chips) is optional, and is recommended.

Additional Helpful Information Can Be Found At:

[www.arborday.org/trees](http://www.arborday.org/trees)  
[www.pplelectric.com/planting](http://www.pplelectric.com/planting)

## Gallon Potted Seedling Planting Guide



## PLANTING

1. Dig wide and tapered planting holes at least 3-4 times as wide as the width of the container. The holes should be saucer-shaped. This will encourage the roots to grow outward through loosened soils. Shovels, spades, or post-hole diggers are good tools that can be used.
2. Depth of the planting holes should be the same as the depth of the container.
3. One at a time, carefully remove trees from their container, squeezing the sides of the container gently to release the roots and soil. If root-bound (when roots encircle the inside of the container), use a sharp knife to cut an "X" on the bottom of the roots and four vertical cuts along the sides of the roots.
4. Place each tree in the center of the planting hole and backfill with loosened soil. Work your way up, filling the hole with soil and tamping in around the roots so that the soil is firmly compacted, but not tight. Air pockets should not be left in the soil, but water will need to be able to soak in.
4. Create a ring of soil forming a watering basin around the tree and water as soon as possible, saturating the soils.
5. Do not replace grass around the planting holes. Add a 2-inch thick layer of mulch (shredded bark or woodchips) spread around, but not touching, the tree trunks. The mulch will help retain moisture in the soil and reduce weeds that would hinder the trees.
6. During the first growing season, water the trees each week if possible, particularly during periods of dry weather or drought.

*Note: Trees should be planted so that the final height is the same as how the trees were grown at the nursery. The highest roots should be covered by soil, but the crown (where the trunk flares out above the roots) should be exposed and not buried. It is most important to not plant the trees too deep.*



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