

# FRUIT TREES



## Selecting a Fruit Tree

1. What fruit do you want?
2. Will it grow in our climate & soil? What is the zone?
3. What do you want to do with the fruit? Bottle, bake, eat fresh, etc.
4. When will it be ripe? You may want varieties that harvest at different times.
5. What is the size of the tree? Semi-dwarf is most common.
6. Does the tree need a pollinator?

## Planting Your Tree

1. Dig the hole 2x as wide and just as deep as the pot. Do not bury the graft.
2. Add mulch & use root stimulator
3. Water deeply & regularly until established & depending on the weather.

## Pruning: Dead, Diseased, Damaged, Direction

1. Shape during the early years while waiting for fruiting.
2. Pick off fruit during the first 2-3 years to allow root development.
3. Open up center of the tree for sunlight & air flow.
4. Prune while dormant to stimulate growth
5. Prune suckers & broken or diseased all year.
6. Do not prune too much in one year.
7. Prune the branch right above an outward facing bud.
8. Prune to protect the tree from overloaded branches that could break.

## Pest Control

1. Dormant Spray: protects from overwintering pests, larvae & eggs
2. Apply dormant spray in late winter or early spring. (When temps are above 40 degrees.)
3. Triple Action controls insects, mites, fungus, and contains dormant oil.
4. Fire Blight - bacterial disease

<https://extension.usu.edu>

"The Home Orchard Pest Management Guide"