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TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL GROWING

- Plant in well-drained soil. Be certain your area does not stay excessively wet.
- Dig hole twice as wide and at least 6-12" deeper than root ball.
- To your clay soil, add up to 50% humus (peat, compost, manure, shredded bark, or leaves, etc.). Clay soil has lots of nutrients but does need some additives to improve texture and drainage.
- Azaleas, Camellias, Cherries, Dogwoods, Pieris, Roses, and Rhododendrons require extra good drainage—mix 1/3 soil, 1/3 humus, and 1/3 perlite for backfill material.
- Remove plant from pot keeping root ball intact. If roots are coiled on surface, loosen up the roots around edge or slash root ball from top to bottom to stimulate root growth.
- Set top of root ball 2" higher than ground level. Backfill to top of ball with soil mix you prepared. Pack new dirt firmly. Soak with water.
- Mulch with 2-3 inches of pine bark or needles.
- Water by hand every 3 days for 3 weeks. Then, water weekly through first year during summer and fall. Check soil under mulch regularly for moisture content. Avoid drying out or keeping soggy wet.
- Be careful under irrigation that plants are not staying too wet or too dry. Actually feel down in soil to determine moisture.
- Feed with Pennington Nursery and Landscape Fertilizer (14-7-7) in spring. Can also use in July for young plants that need to grow quickly. Azalea and Camellia Fertilizer or Osmocote is also satisfactory.