

We're interested in the reasons you have taken part in our Free Tree Scheme – please get in touch and tell us why trees matter to you:

[rosliston@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:rosliston@southderbyshire.gov.uk)

Your new trees are two years old and approximately 30-50cm high (please note – Juniper are 10-20cm high) Treat them gently, as rough handling or being dropped can shock the roots, and it will take the trees longer to get established.

When you get your trees home, store them somewhere cool, outside. Do not let the roots dry out, so keep them covered. They should be planted within a couple of weeks of receiving them. If you need to store them for longer then give them a temporary home in a pot and remember to transplant them during the dormant season (Dec to March).

If you have a small garden or patio you can put each in a large pot permanently. The size of the pot will determine how big the tree gets, as once the roots have filled the pot the tree will stop growing. If you put your pot over soil, the roots will grow down through holes at the bottom of the pot into the ground so do be careful!

### **General planting advice:**

- If planting directly into the ground, check distance from your own and your neighbour's property
- Make sure your hole is big enough for all the roots to fit in comfortably
- Once planted, press the soil down firmly around the stem, making sure the roots are fully covered but that all of the stem is above the soil level
- If the soil is dry, water the tree when you have planted it.

### **For the first couple of years:**

- Weed carefully around the base of the tree
- Water the tree during long spells of warm dry weather

### **Safe Planting distances (or put the tree in a large pot!)**

Remember your neighbour's property too, when you plant!

Safe planting distances depend on the depth of your foundations and the type of soil. Shallow foundations eg for conservatories and clay soil require the greatest minimum planting distance, making sure the tree is as far from a building as it will eventually grow in height.

If your foundations are deeper than 1m, or if you intend to prune the tree to restrict its height, you can plant closer to buildings than the recommended minimum distances.

### **Recommended minimum planting distance from buildings:**

Hazel: 5-7 metres from buildings

Holly: 7 metres from buildings

Alder Buckthorn: 3 metres from buildings

Juniper: 7m from buildings

### **OR as close as you want if you plant them in a large pot on a paved area!**

**Source for information and images:** Cheviot Trees, Woodgrow Horticulture Limited, the Woodland Trust and other advisory websites

### **We'd love to know how you get on with your trees!**

Please tweet photos to @RoslistonEnvEd

or send them via Facebook: *Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centre*

## Information about this year's trees:

### **HAZEL *Corylus avellana***



A small, fast growing, native, deciduous tree, that will grow to around 6 metres tall. It has edible nuts in autumn and bright yellow lambs tail catkins in February which provide essential early pollen for bees. A hazel tree can be coppiced to produce straight stakes for hedge laying, runner bean poles etc, but also makes a lovely small tree if left to grow.

### **HOLLY *Ilex aquifolium***



A medium to large evergreen tree that can reach 20m, but takes many years to grow. The holly is an attractive garden tree which can be trimmed to a neat dome shape if you wish. Trees are either male or female – with berries appearing in the autumn on the female trees (but only if they have been pollinated by a male tree growing nearby). We can't tell whether the young trees we receive are male or female.

### **ALDER BUCKTHORN *Frangula alnus***



A deciduous shrub, growing to 3–6 m, occasionally to 7 m tall. The flowers are small, 3–5 mm diameter, star-shaped with five greenish-white petals, flowering in May to June in clusters. The fruit is a small black berry, which is not edible, ripening from green through red in late summer to dark purple or black in early autumn.

### **JUNIPER *Juniperus Communis***



The Juniper is one of our native conifers and a great tree for gardens as you can trim it to the height that's right for you. If left unchecked it can grow to 10metres high. It's an attractive tree with bright green needles and purple cones, which look like berries, and can be used to flavour gin. Birds also enjoy them.

It's quite prickly and a favoured nest site for some of our smaller garden birds. Despite the prickles, some of our native moths eat the needles so it is a good all-round wildlife-friendly species.

***Photos: unless stated they are edited from our own stock, Cheviot Trees and the Woodland Trust***