- 1. Build berms or mounds at least 18" tall and 36" wide.
- 2. Dig a hole roughly 16" wide and 14" deep in center of berm or mound.
- 3. Water the hole before planting and let the soil dry out don't plant in mud.
- 4. Compact soil in bottom of the hole with the foot to eliminate air pockets.
- 5. Handle the trees with care, supporting the bottom of the pot, not the stems.
- 6. Do not lay the tree on its side at any time.
- 7. Place the tree in the hole and adjust depth so upper surface of nursery substrate is slightly higher than soil because it will settle.
- 8. Carefully cut and remove plastic sleeve be careful not to cut roots.
- 9. Center the tree in the hole.
- 10. Fill hole ½ way with loose soil and gently compact to eliminate air pockets.
- 11. Place stake in the hole outside of root ball on windward side and drive down roughly 24".
- 12. Finish filling the hole with loose soil and gently compact to eliminate air pockets.
- 13.Be sure the upper surface of the nursery substrate remains slightly higher than the soil to accommodate for settling.
- 14. Tie trunk to stake with flexible tie tape.
- 15. Place irrigation to ensure root ball is watered. Place drippers on top of root ball or place sprinklers off to the side of the root ball.
- 16. Water the newly planted tree as soon as possible and schedule regular irrigation as needed.
- 17. Initiate fertilization plan.
- 18. If painting the trunks and branches, use a white water-based solution and avoid painting the leaves.
- 19.If mulching, clean coarse mulch is recommended no more than 3" deep and placed around the tree but not touching the stem.

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