



Trees need weekly watering for at least 3 years after planting – this is called the “establishment period”. AISD trees should have irrigation, here are examples of how irrigation heads may look.



If these heads are broken, or the ground is incredibly dry – please notify the AISD Urban Forester to communicate with the principal and find a contingency plan.

**YOUNG TREE  
CARE NEEDS**  
*AISD Tree Ranger Help Guide*

If irrigation is not working, or not present, weekly watering (10-20 gallons per tree) will still need to take place. See below for types of above ground watering systems that can be used.



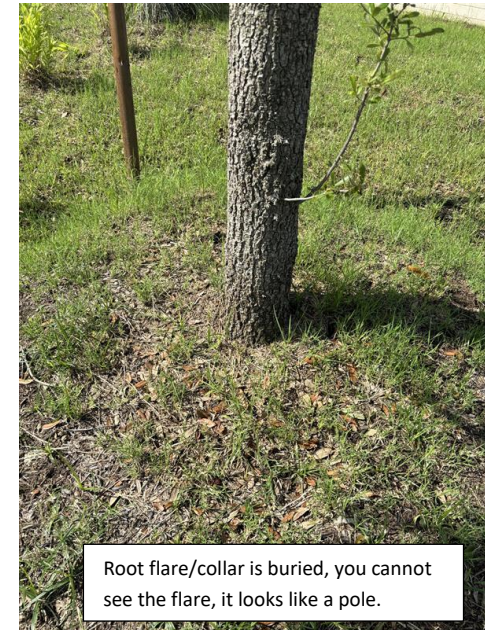
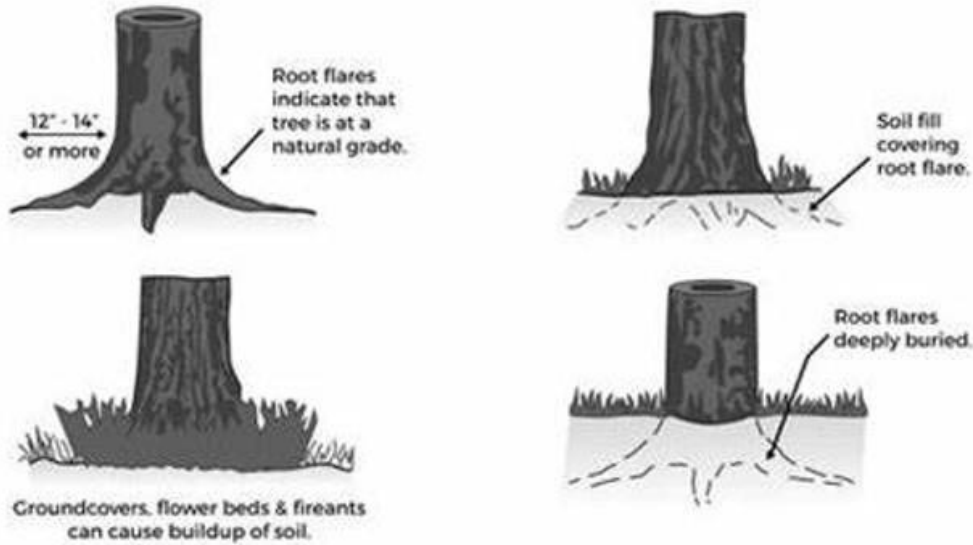
[Tree Diaper \(follow link\)](#)



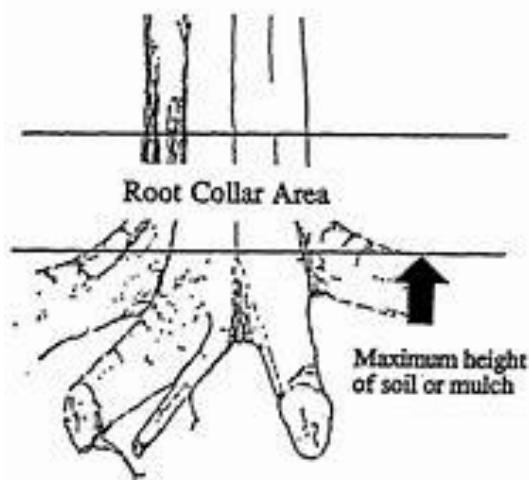
[Bucket watering method \(follow link\)](#)

Young trees are often planted too deep, or have sediment pile up over the years. Trees often need the soil moved away from the trunk and the root flare (also called collar) exposed. See below for diagrams showing the root flare/ root collar.

Root flares are important transition zones between the trunk and root system, and you need to see them! Trees should not look like telephone poles. See below for a real-life buried root flare, and exposed root flare.



Root flare/collar is buried, you cannot see the flare, it looks like a pole.



Root flare has been dug out and exposed, you can see soil pulled away and the line where the dirt once was.

Ensure proper mulching techniques and avoid “volcano” mulching. Mulch should be pulled away from the base of the tree, extend to the drip line and be 2-4 inches in depth. See below for improper mulching techniques.

Mulch should be raked away from the center of the tree. If you are applying new mulch to the tree where there is existing mulch, be sure to rake it out, break it up then apply the new layer. Mulch layers should not be deeper than 4 inches.

