## KACKENHOFF NURSERIES LTD

## CARE OF LARGE TREES AFTER PLANTING

Large amounts of water are usually required after planting evergreen or deciduous trees.

Immediately after planting, water the tree with approximately 50-60 gallons (10x5 gallon pails) of water to **slowly soak** the root ball area. This is also the time to apply a plant starter fertilizer. Continue watering every 2 to 3 days for the next 8 weeks.

Thereafter apply approximately 100 gallons of water once every second week throughout the balance of the growing season. Fertilize up to the end of August with a general fertilizer such as

20-20-20 for deciduous trees and 30-10-10 for evergreens at 6-week intervals.

Mulching the planting area with peat moss, wood or bark chips to a depth of 3 to 4" (8-10cm) conserves moisture and discourages weed growth. Give the trees a good watering before freeze up, generally at the end of October to the middle of November.

Evergreen trees should be either protected with a burlap tent or screen, or if they are too large for this method, sprayed with an anti-desiccant.

Deciduous trees should be protected from mice, rabbits, and deer with plastic or wire mesh tree guards, or sprayed with a repellant.

In the second season of growth, water with 100 gallons once a month and fertilize as in the first year.

Stake or guy wire trees for at least 2 years. Check wires periodically to be sure they are not cutting into the tree. Be sure to remove stakes and guy wires after 2 years.

It is a good idea to inspect your trees for insects and disease every time you water.