Planting Shrubs and Other Woody Plants

Today on Gardening in a Minute: planting shrubs and other woody plants.

Planting shrubs is a fairly easy, straightforward process.

First, make sure you’ve got a good place for the new plant, taking into account its mature size; soil, water, and light needs; and other factors that might influence its growth.

Dig your hole, making it at least one-and-a-half times wider than the root ball but one inch shallower. Place the plant in the hole and fill the soil back around the sides of the root ball, but don’t put any soil on top of it.

Now’s not the time to fertilize, as it can burn the roots. Add mulch around the plant, but not on top of the root ball.

To ensure establishment, water your new plant on a regular basis throughout its first growing season.

For more information about planting shrubs and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.