

# MULCHING GUIDELINES

- Adding mulch helps conserve moisture, reduces erosion, and impedes weed growth.
- Organic mulches add fertility to the soil as it breaks down and helps moderate soil temperature.
- Avoid creating a “volcano” around the trunk of a tree. Mulch touching bark invites stress, disease and insects.
- Start mulch 2”-3” away from a trunk and apply 2”-3” all around. When done properly, it should resemble a donut.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

### Choosing the Right Mulch

[ag.umass.edu/news/hort-notes-selecting-right-landscape-mulch](http://ag.umass.edu/news/hort-notes-selecting-right-landscape-mulch)

### Mulching & Weed Management

[ag.umass.edu/print/1666](http://ag.umass.edu/print/1666)

### Mulching Trees

[www.umass.edu/urbantree/factsheets/9mulchingtrees.html](http://www.umass.edu/urbantree/factsheets/9mulchingtrees.html)

### Mulching for Fruits

[ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/fact-sheets/pdf/mulching\\_fruit.pdf](http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/fact-sheets/pdf/mulching_fruit.pdf)

