

Planting Tips: Beautyberry

Thank you for participating in Cary's long-standing history of championing trees with "My Tree, Our Tree." The "My Tree, Our Tree" campaign connects your individual tree planting efforts with broader benefits to the community's environmental health. Every tree you plant in Cary brings shade, beauty, and wildlife habitats to your yard; sequesters carbon; and helps clean our water and air. Thank you for planting a tree to support our environment and ensuring trees continue to have a special place in Cary's future.

How to Grow Your Tree

1. Pick your place

- Find a place that has the right amount of light and space for your beautyberry. Your beautyberry will grow to about seven feet tall and wide. It grows best in full to part sun.
- Plant your beautyberry at least five feet from sidewalks and other trees and buildings.
- Beautyberries are great pollinator plants and provide berries for the birds all winter. They go particularly well as the background for pollinator gardens, or as a foundation shrub between two windows!

2. Prepare, then plant your beautyberry (refer to diagram on back)

- Take everything off your beautyberry, including tape. You can leave the name tag on if you want to refer to it later.
- Brush the soil and mulch off the root flare of the base of the beautyberry. The root flare is the place where the trunk gets wider right before the first large root emerges. Oftentimes it is buried in the pot, so remove the potting soil from around the trunk until you uncover it. It will be smaller than you would find in a tree, but still important to keep above ground.
- Dig a hole that is only as deep as the pot, but about twice as wide. New beautyberries like wide, shallow holes. Loosen soil within the hole and on the sides of the hole.
- Place your beautyberry in the hole, making sure the root flare is above ground. You may have to add more soil to the bottom of the hole if the hole is too deep.
- Fill the hole with a mix of topsoil and the soil you dug out of the ground.
- Spread mulch two inches thick in a two-foot radius circle around your new beautyberry. Make sure there is no mulch touching the trunk.
- Water your beautyberry well right after planting.
- Show off your beautyberry! Upload a picture of your newly planted tree on social media using #MyTreeOurTree

3. Continuing care for your beautyberry

- Be sure your beautyberry is sufficiently watered for the first two years it is in the ground! When it has leaves on it, water your beautyberry about once a week for about one minute.
- As your beautyberry grows, make the mulch ring around it wider so the roots have more room to grow. You do not need to mulch under the branches every year.
- Register for our free, virtual Tree Talk series via myCary for seasonal tree care tips.

SHRUB PLANTING DIAGRAM

