

Natives: Planting and Care

- Let plants acclimate to sunlight (harden off) before planting.
- Dig a hole slightly wider than the pot.
- Place the plant in the hole, fill in around the plant with soil, and press soil down to avoid air pockets.
- If you mulch, don't let mulch touch the base of the plant (leave a few inches around it).
- Fallen leaves and plant litter make a great mulch to suppress weeds, and will decompose into the soil.
- Water well when first planted and check soil moisture levels frequently while the plant establishes.
- Avoid the use of fertilizers and pesticides/herbicides. They typically do more damage than good.
- All native plants need watering for their first year of growth. After that, in the proper site, they need no further care.
- For best results, protect your baby plants from deer and rabbits until they can fend for themselves.
- ***Please note: Some plants may not bloom the first year(s) while they focus on root growth.***

For more info on native plants and pollinators, visit our Pollinator pages at

<https://sustainablesaratoga.org/projects/pollinator-protection-initiative/>