How are You Selecting Your Trees?

Wholesale above ground

Pre-dug in the field
Trees should not look like telephone poles at the base
Root system is roughly 2-3 times the width of the canopy.
Balled and Burlapped (B&B)

For B&B trees, roughly 80-90% of the tree’s root system is left at the nursery after harvesting.
Bare Root

Nice fibrous root system, but can dry out easily
Root Structure of Nursery Stock

Balled and Burlapped  Bare Root  Containerized
Issues with Containerized Plant Material

Container grown tree was repackaged as a B&B tree – Notice the girdling (circling roots)
It may be necessary, remove excess soil to expose root flare

Root ball size has been reduced by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ by exposing the root flare
Water-By-Bike/Tree Ambassador
City is now using Flexi-pave in tree wells

Helps reduce soil compaction, allows for water infiltration, does not collect as much litter, helps with improving sidewalk accessibility with narrow sidewalks, and holds up well to wear and tear.
Water is very important with helping newly installed trees become established faster.

How do you water your trees?

In Cambridge, all new trees are installed with a gator bag.
Fill the rest of the hole with soil and soak again with water. Add mulch but do not bury the root flare.