

Citrus Tree Care

Planting Location

- Choose a sunny spot with at least 8 hours of direct sunlight daily.
- Ensure well-drained soil; avoid low areas where water stands.

Watering

- Water deeply and regularly, especially during dry spells.
- Water early in the day to prevent fungal growth.

Fertilization

- Fertilize 3-4 times per year with a balanced, slow-release citrus fertilizer.
- Apply in early spring, late spring, summer, and early fall.

Pruning

- Prune to remove dead or damaged wood, but avoid heavy pruning.
- Remove any suckers growing from the rootstock.

Protection from Cold

- Protect citrus trees during cold snaps (below 32°F) with frost cloth
- Consider planting cold-hardy varieties like Satsuma or Kumquat.

Pest and Disease Management

- Regularly inspect for pests like aphids, scale insects, and citrus leaf miners.
- Prevent fungal diseases by ensuring proper air circulation around the tree.

Mulching

- Mulch around the base to retain moisture and regulate soil temperature.
- Keep mulch a few inches away from the trunk to prevent rot.

Harvesting

- Harvest fruit when it reaches full color and size; citrus trees do not continue ripening after being picked.
- Use pruners or scissors to avoid damaging the tree when picking fruit.

Soil Care

- Test soil every 2-3 years for pH and nutrient levels.
- Adjust soil pH to slightly acidic (5.5-6.5) if needed using sulfur or lime.