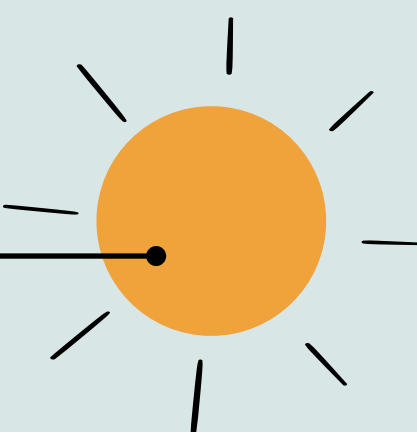


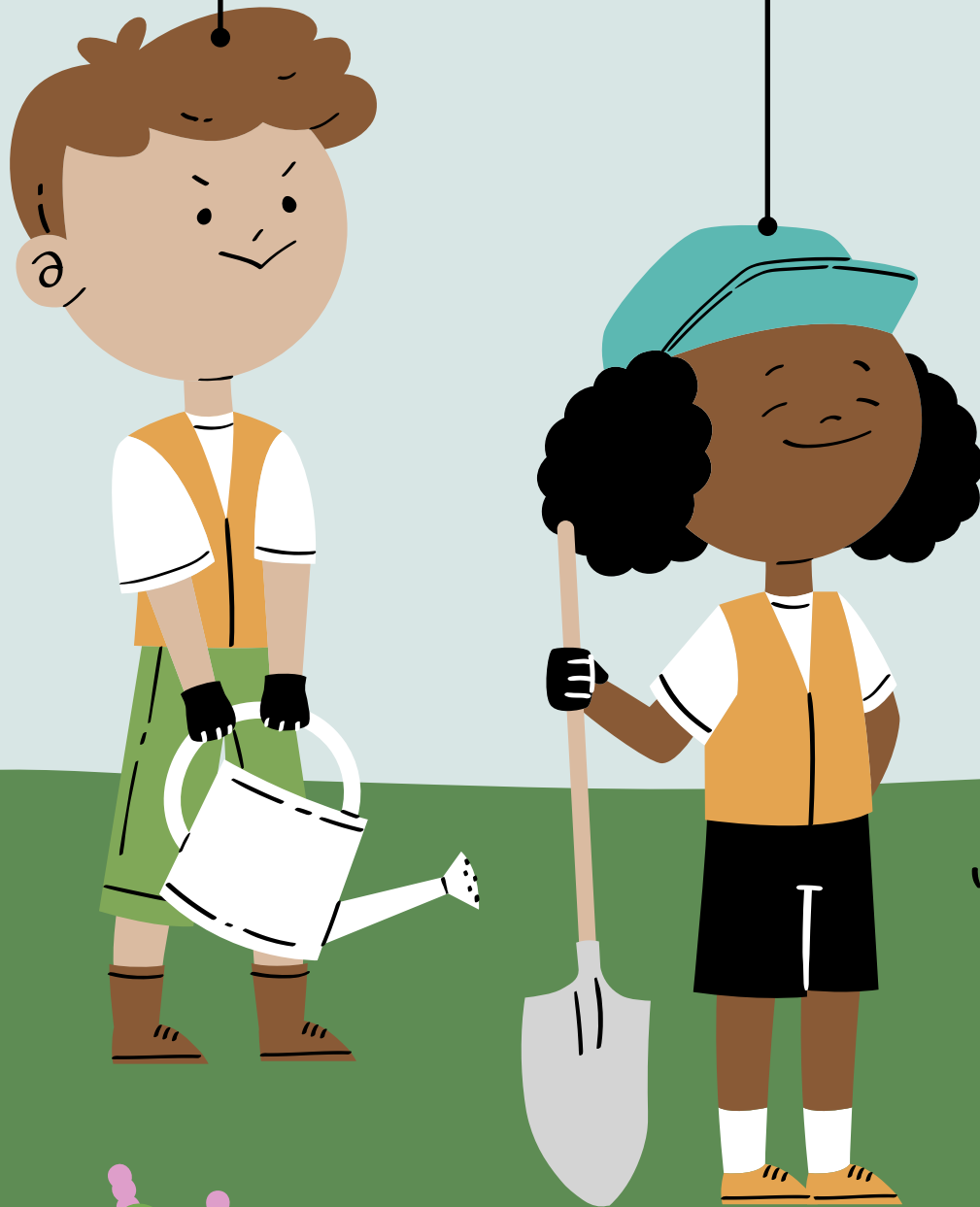
# Anatomy of a Newly-planted Tree



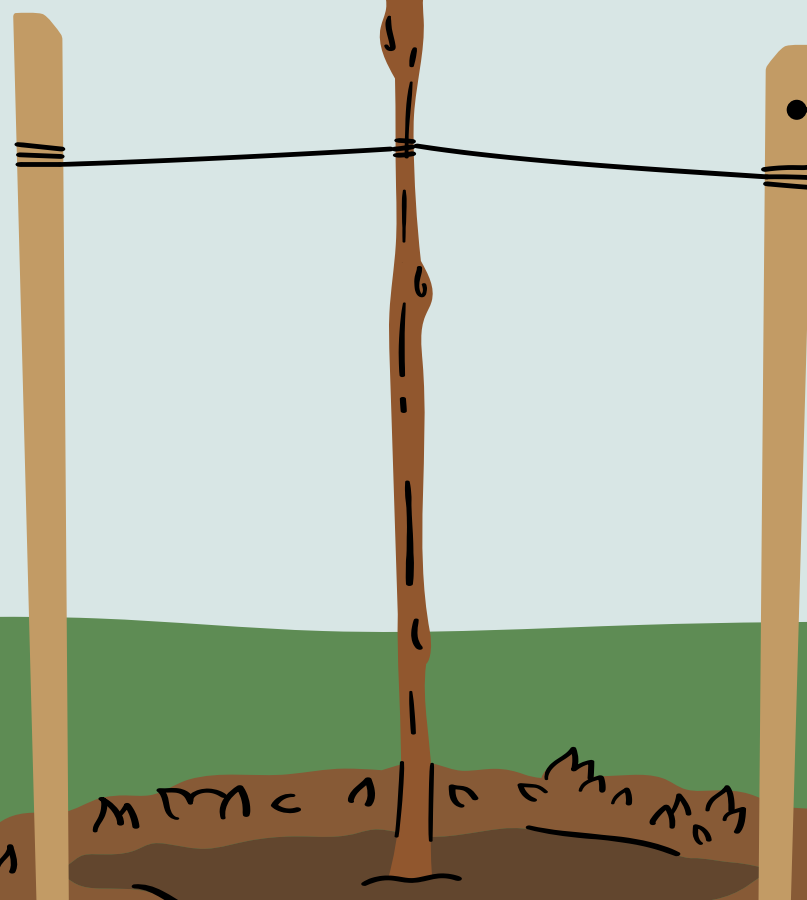
**The location**



**The people**



**The stakes**



**The berm**



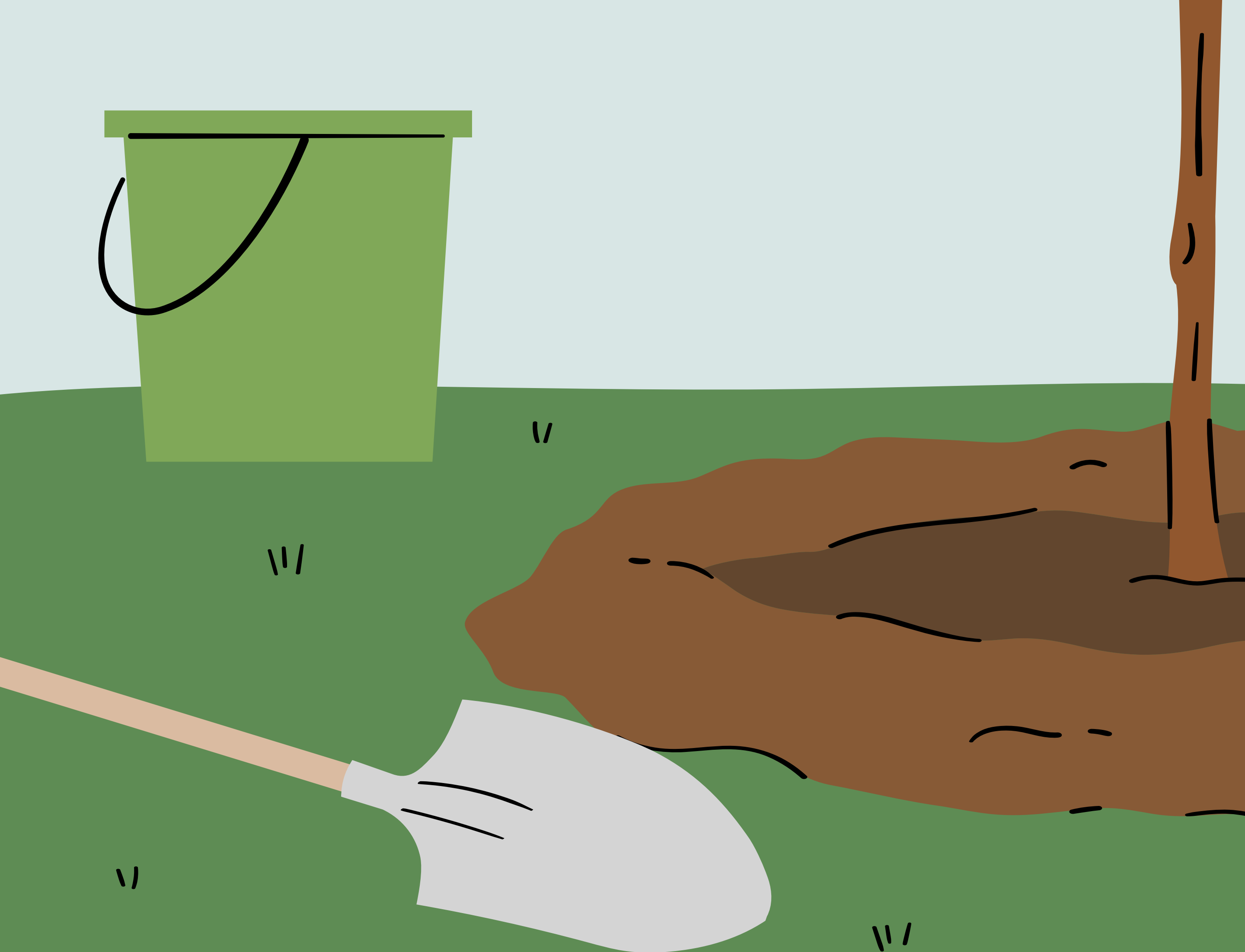
**The mulch**



# The Location

Trees should always be planted in locations where they can thrive. When we plant new trees, we choose sites that have **sufficient sun** and **well-draining soil**, and **consult DigAlert** to make sure that its roots won't interfere with any utilities.





## The Berm

When a tree is planted, we surround it with a berm—a ring of soil around the tree that is high enough to hold at least 5 gallons of water. Located on the outer perimeter of the tree's root ball, the berm helps to capture water and guide it straight to where it's needed most.



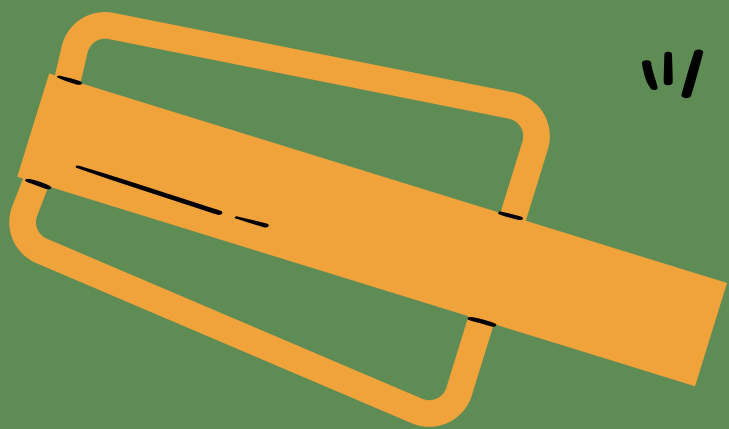
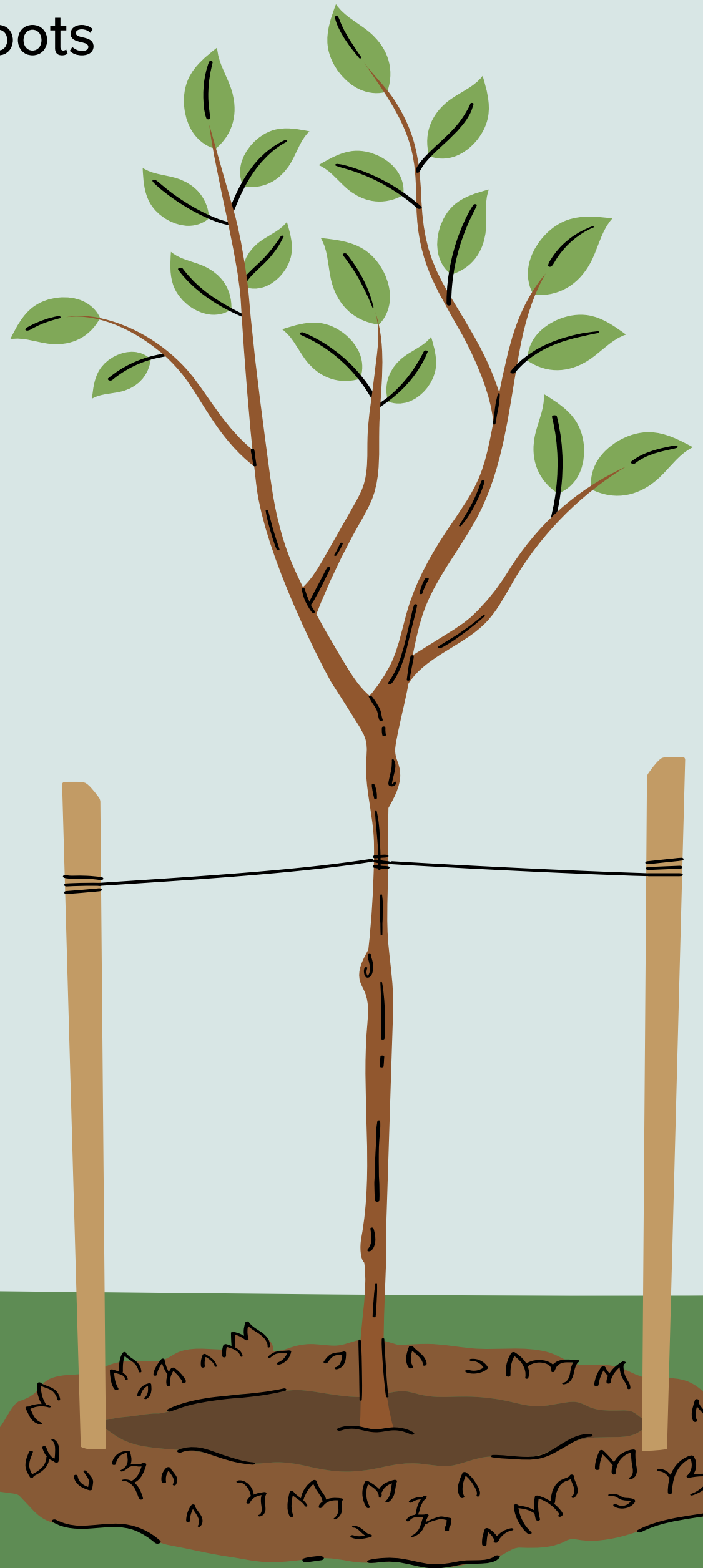
## The Mulch

Before planting, we clear a 2-3 foot circle of weeds and grass, which can compete with your tree for water and nutrients. After the tree is in the ground, we add a **4-6 inch layer of mulch** around the tree to help prevent these weeds from returning while reducing evaporation. The mulch is always placed **5-6 inches away from the tree's base**, because the trunk can rot if covered.



# The Stakes

Tree stakes and ties help support newly-planted trees until their roots are established. After planting, they're driven securely into the ground just **outside the root ball—or about a foot from the trunk**. The tree is then secured to them with a tie to allow for proper movement and support. **Once the tree's roots are established, stakes and ties can be removed.**



TreePeople

# The People

Proper planting gives a tree a solid start. But trees also need people! You'll find volunteers and staff members visiting our newly planted trees for years after their initial planting, making sure they have what they need to thrive. A regular reapplication of **mulch** helps keep the soil below the tree healthy. **Weeding** assures it isn't competing for resources. And young trees also need to be provided with about **15 gallons of water** on a regular basis, depending on their size and soil type.



Want to learn more about our tree planting best practices?

Head to the link in bio to check out our full tree planting guide!

