



# Guarantee a healthy tree

## What you need to know about connecting to the sewer system

With sewers going in throughout Hi-Desert Water District's service area, you can no longer rely on the septic system to water your trees. By following the tips below, you can keep established trees healthy and thriving!

### How to water



**Established trees need a deep, slow soaking** to the outer half of the area beneath the tree canopy and for several feet beyond the drip line. To prevent rot, don't apply water to the area directly around the trunk and avoid shallow watering, which leads to shallow roots that dry out faster.



**Arrange a soaker hose or drip system** in a circle from the outer half of the canopy and beyond the drip line to slowly distribute water over a large area.



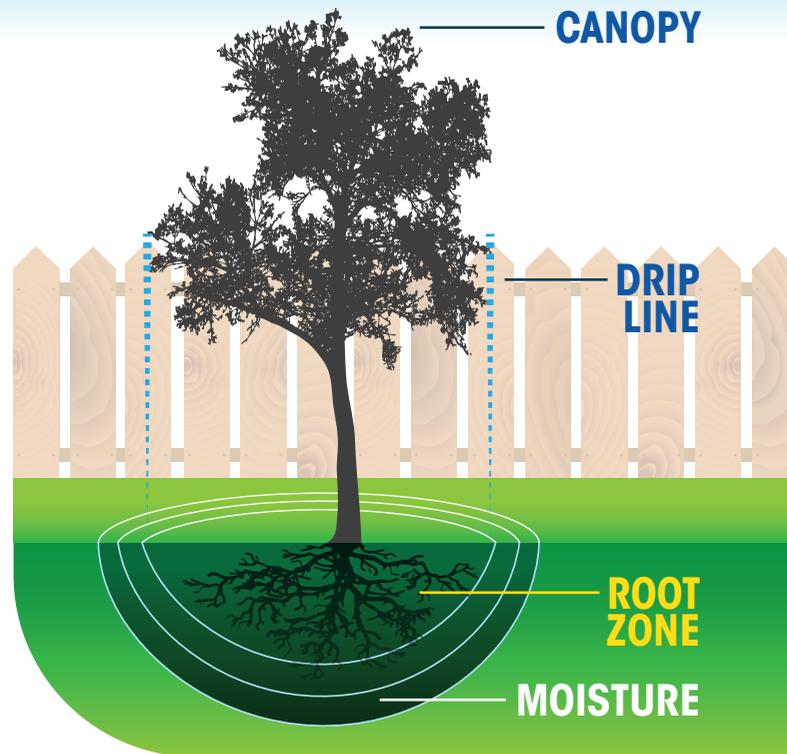
**Let water soak** 2-3 feet into the soil to encourage deep root growth.



**Dig a trench** under the drip line so water absorbs more slowly. *(Do not use with citrus trees.)*



**Add mulch** from the drip line to within 6 inches of the trunk to reduce evaporation.



### When to water

Irrigation frequency depends on the size and variety of tree, type of soil and weather conditions. Newly planted trees require much more water than established ones.

In general, established trees in the desert can be deep watered once a month during summer. To check the soil, poke an iron rod into the ground to make sure water has reached a depth of 2-3 feet. Allow the soil to dry out between watering.

**Avoid** irrigating during the hottest part of the day — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — to conserve water.



For more information about caring for your trees, visit us online at [hdwd.com/sewerconnections](http://hdwd.com/sewerconnections).