



Hurricanes & Trees

SAVING SMALL UPROOTED TREES

After a storm, you may encounter trees that have been wholly uprooted with the rootball intact. Sometimes you may be able to upright **small** trees and save them.

STEPS TO FOLLOW

STEP 1 Cover the exposed roots immediately to keep them from **drying** out until you can make arrangements to restore the tree to the upright position. Use wet burlap, hay, sand, mud, plastic sheets or any convenient material to retard drying.

- Just before you right the tree, cut away any shattered roots.

STEP 2 Upright the tree. If the tree is small enough, upright it yourself. If it's too large, try block and tackle, winch, etc., equipment. When lifting, protect the bark with padding where pressure is applied to the trunk, branch, etc. Look at the root system carefully. You may need to prune or cut back part of the crown to compensate for root loss.

STEP 3 After the tree is restored to its original position, install guy wires to hold it in place until the root system regenerates. Use at least three guy wires. Use a short length of rubber

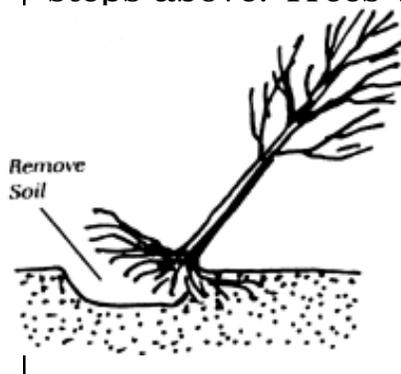
hose around each wire to protect bark from injury. Fasten the wires securely to stakes in the ground.

* Check guy wires often so they do not grow and cut into the trunk. Wires may have to be left in place for a year or two.

STEP 4 Water the tree well. Water slowly for a long period. Watch for insects and disease pressure. Small trees can generally be saved if you follow the steps above. Trees with a diameter of

10 inches or more are often too heavy to upright and usually do not survive.

Be careful when handling trees.



Made available by: Barton Joffrion, County Agent, Terrebonne

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