

Water your new tree every two weeks--each week during hot, dry weather--for the first year or two. Allow the soil to dry at the surface before you water again. The amount of water needed is the amount the soil can absorb. Stop watering when water no longer seeps in rapidly.

A water lance attached to a garden hose will put moisture into the root zone, instead of losing it to the air. A canvas soaker hose puts a lot of water where it's needed without washing away soil or losing water through evaporation. Withhold water when all the leaves drop, but soak the ground once shortly before it freezes for the winter.