

Save Trees in LGP !

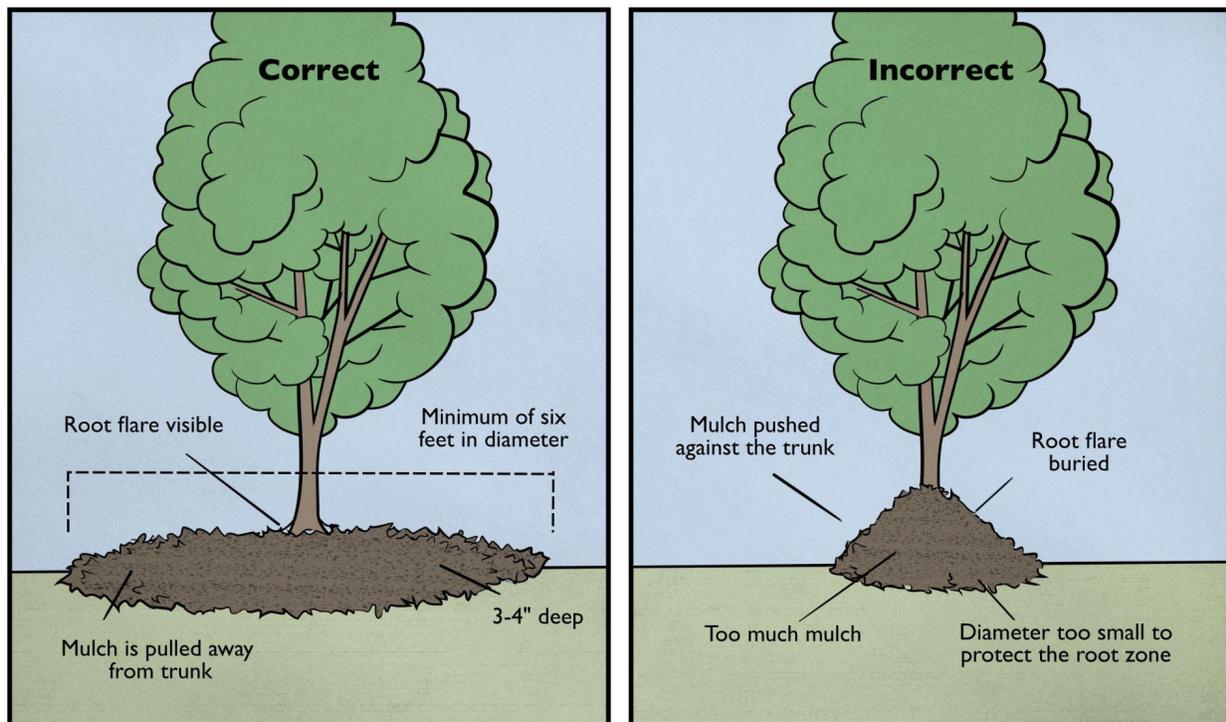
Please don't volcano mulch the trees. Volcano Mulching is the term given to piling mulch up into a cone shape against the tree trunk.

Why is volcano mulching harmful?

Mounding the mulch in a cone onto the tree trunk keeps moisture against the trunk, allowing a place for mold and bacteria to gather, as well as an avenue for insect infestation. Improper mulching is also harmful to the roots, causing them to girdle, or circle around the trunk, leading to the tree constricting itself, and eventual death.

How should I, or my landscaper, properly mulch?

The root flare should be visible, as the mulch should be pulled slightly away from the trunk. Mulch should only be 3-4 inches deep and an average 6 feet in diameter. The larger the tree, the larger the diameter, but not thickness, of the mulch. If your landscaper is enveloping your trees in volcano mulch, tell them to stop because there should be no volcanoes in La Grange Park !



PROPER MULCHING

The diagram is courtesy of The Morton Arboretum, where they are always happy to answer your mulching or plant related questions at plantclinic@mortonarb.org