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## Common Tree Problems

**PAW PAWS** - Protect paw paws from slugs, snails & intense sunlight. Shade the plants their first year from harsh sunlight.

**BLUEBERRIES, LINGONBERRIES, HUCKLEBERRIES, and CRANBERRIES** - When you plant these plants add a generous amount of organic matter (moistened peat moss or compost) to the native soil. If your soil is NOT highly acidic, lots of peat moss will make it so. These plants REQUIRE an acid soil. They are very sensitive to fertilizers, so there should NOT be a strong fertilizer/manure added to the soil. They need a good organic mulch, reapplied every fall or early winter - to a depth of several inches - in order to retard moisture & weed competition. These plants are NOT drought tolerant. Blueberries & cranberries especially require a constantly moist, not water logged, soil during the growing season. If blossoms or fruit are removed during transplanting, there will be better plant growth for this season.

### **OTHER COMMON TREE PROBLEMS:**

Try to protect your new trees from wildlife predation. Rodents, rabbits, and deer can be deadly to a young, new tree and can stress a mature tree too. Slugs can be especially hard on young pawpaws, kiwis, and mulberries.

Remember to water your new plants! Their first summer is critical. Lack of water or excessive water is a major cause of plant mortality and stress.

When you plant your trees, make sure you don't put any nitrogen fertilizer in the root zone. Nitrogen can inhibit root growth. You can add a top dressing after the plants starts actively growing.

A late frost can cause blackening of the new growth. The plant will usually recover by sending out new growth or resprouting from the roots.