



## 6 MISTAKES WHEN PLANTING A TREE

So, you have waited all winter and now you think you're ready to plant a tree. Have you chosen the type of tree that will thrive in your climate? Does the desired location provide adequate drainage and necessary sunlight? There are several variables to consider before even breaking ground. [Here are 6 common mistakes to avoid when planting a tree this spring.](#)



APRIL 2018

### UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

#### Earth Day - Party for the Planet

April 22  
Brookfield Zoo  
[Get the details.](#)

#### Arbor Day

April 27  
*Contact JULIE before planting a tree.*

#### Get Growing Weekend

May 19 - 20  
Chicago Botanic Garden  
[Learn more](#)



## KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE

April marks Safe Digging Month, reminding homeowners and professional excavators in Illinois to contact JULIE before every digging project this spring, regardless of the size or depth. Putting up a fence, installing a mailbox post, building a deck or patio and planting trees and shrubs are all common examples of digging projects that require a call to JULIE first. This is a free service.

“Protect yourself and your family. Striking a single buried utility line can cause injury, repair costs, penalties and inconvenient outages,” said Kevin Chmura, director of public relations for JULIE, Inc. “There is no reason to take a chance. Even if you think you know where all the utility lines are located and have notified JULIE for a previous project, you still need to contact JULIE again.”

### 4 Steps to Safety

There are four important steps to every safe excavation project:

1. Call JULIE at 8-1-1 or 800-892-0123 or go online ([illinois1call.com](http://illinois1call.com)) to submit your own request online before you dig;
2. Wait the required amount of time (two business days);
3. Respect the marks; and
4. Dig with care.

JULIE’s members recommend that homeowners mark the designated work area with [white paint or flags](#) before submitting a locate request to allow professional locators from their companies to find the project area more quickly and to eliminate unnecessary paint and flags in other areas. JULIE personnel do not perform locating or marking services. As an important personal and home safety reminder, locators from member companies rarely need access into your home to complete a locate request and should always have proper identification clearly visible.

JULIE’s call center agents are available to receive and process locate requests 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 8-1-1. [Click here to conveniently enter your own online request with no potential days on the phone during peak periods.](#) It’s a free service.



## WHAT DO THOSE SMALL FLAGS MEAN?

After you have notified JULIE, each utility member is responsible to locate and mark their own underground lines with paint or flags within two business days required by law (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays). The [color code](#) illustrates the colors each member uses when staking, painting and or flagging the location of a buried line. As a not-for-profit covering the state of Illinois (outside the city of Chicago), JULIE does not own, operate or locate any underground lines.

Our members are only required to mark the lines that they own, not [privately installed or owned lines](#) such as electric and gas lines to a garage or workshop, sprinkler systems and ornamental lighting. [Learn more about what happens after contacting JULIE.](#)

## PLAY TO WIN

There are over \$8,500 in prizes in the [Can You Dig It? Game](#). All of these great prizes cost you absolutely nothing to win but a click of your mouse (just watch out for that pesky gopher!). Follow @JULIE1Call on social media for all the latest news, contests and activities..

## DIG SMART MINUTE

Check out the latest edition of our [Dig Smart Minute video with helpful tips](#) from Tony Abruscato, Director of the Chicago Flower and Garden Show.

