

Volunteer Instructions – Hemlock Sapling-Digging

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING to participate in this project to dig hemlock saplings that will ultimately be used for replanting, donated to schools or other nonprofits, or offered for adoption.

1. **Choose only healthy, well-branched trees.** *Light* HWA is OK as long as the trees will be treated immediately.
2. **Dig root ball** about as wide as the drip line and 4 to 8 inches deep, depending on the size of the tree.
3. Placing both hands under the root ball, lift it out of the hole, keeping the root ball as intact as possible, and place it in a plastic bag. Several small trees can be bagged together.
4. **Tie handles of bag** one time (not a square knot) around base of stem(s) and place bag in shade.
5. Also **dig extra native soil** to be combined with soil amendments to make the potting or planting mix.
6. **Leave No Trace:** Re-contour and press down the dirt where the native soil and little trees are removed so as not to leave unsightly or hazardous holes. Replace needle duff and leaf debris to restore site to its original appearance.
7. **Bring bagged trees and native soil to the collection / potting station** once an hour and place them in the shade.
8. **Moisten the root balls** in the bags if the little trees will not be potted or replanted immediately.



Save Georgia's Hemlocks, Inc.
Hemlock Help LineSM 706-429-8010
www.SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org

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