

Volunteer Instructions – Potting Hemlock Saplings

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING to participate in this project to pot hemlock saplings that will ultimately be used for replanting, donated to schools and other nonprofits, or offered for adoption. The potting involves use of a special amendment mix to enhance the soil structure and nutritional content, a moisture retention product to help drought-proof the little trees, and a special initial watering mix containing root stimulator and 5-year protection against the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).

1. **Station 1:** Choose correct size pot and prefill it 1/3 full with final potting mix; add 1 baggie of soil additives and mix well. Do NOT pack it down.
2. **Station 2:** Carefully remove sapling and root ball from bag and place in pot. Spread roots on top of soil. Tuck any long roots up under root ball.
3. Add enough final potting mix to just cover roots. Insert your hand vertically all around the edge of the pot to be sure all roots are covered. Add more final potting mix around edges if needed.
4. **Station 3:** Cut bamboo stake to correct size and insert it into pot close to stem and on back side of the tree. Do this gently so as not to damage the tender feeder roots.
5. Secure the stem to the stake with a 4” piece of velcro tape. Tape should be placed about 2/3 of the way up the stem and wrapped *loosely* enough to insert a finger in the loop. Use another tape lower down for a tall sapling.
6. Press soil down firmly to remove air pockets.
7. **Station 4:** Water gently with 8 ounces of initial watering solution per 1-gallon container. If this causes any roots to become exposed, add more final potting mix to just cover them and press down again.
8. Place potted saplings in shade and bag them for transport to the nursery.



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

© 2016 Save Georgia's Hemlocks. Rev. 2-23-23

Volunteer Instructions – Potting Hemlock Saplings

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING to participate in this project to pot hemlock saplings that will ultimately be used for replanting, donated to schools and other nonprofits, or offered for adoption. The potting involves use of a special amendment mix to enhance the soil structure and nutritional content, a moisture retention product to help drought-proof the little trees, and a special initial watering mix containing root stimulator and 5-year protection against the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).

1. **Station 1:** Choose correct size pot and prefill it 1/3 full with final potting mix; add 1 baggie of soil additives and mix well. Do NOT pack it down.
2. **Station 2:** Carefully remove sapling and root ball from bag and place in pot. Spread roots on top of soil. Tuck any long roots up under root ball.
3. Add enough final potting mix to just cover roots. Insert your hand vertically all around the edge of the pot to be sure all roots are covered. Add more final potting mix around edges if needed.
4. **Station 3:** Cut bamboo stake to correct size and insert it into pot close to stem and on back side of the tree. Do this gently so as not to damage the tender feeder roots.
5. Secure the stem to the stake with a 4” piece of velcro tape. Tape should be placed about 2/3 of the way up the stem and wrapped *loosely* enough to insert a finger in the loop. Use another tape lower down for a tall sapling.
6. Press soil down firmly to remove air pockets.
7. **Station 4:** Water gently with 8 ounces of initial watering solution per 1-gallon container. If this causes any roots to become exposed, add more final potting mix to just cover them and press down again.
8. Place potted saplings in shade and bag them for transport to the nursery.



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

© 2016 Save Georgia's Hemlocks. Rev. 2-23-23