



Southern Live Oak *Quercus virginiana*

Height: 60 to 80 feet

Spread: 60 to 120 feet

Light requirement: full sun to partial shade

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Soil tolerances: clay; sand; loam; alkaline; acidic; occasionally wet; well-drained

Drought tolerance: high

Aerosol salt tolerance: high

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Southern live oak has a very broad-spreading growth habit and is best suited for large landscapes. Live oaks should be routinely pruned to eliminate development of multiple trunks and should not be planted in compacted soil or confined spaces as the large surface roots can interfere with hardscapes.

Send us your questions: sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu

Ref: UF/IFAS EDIS Factsheet:

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st564>



12-Step Tree Adoption Aftercare Program

1. Look up! Avoid planting under overhead power wires and streetlights.
2. Call 811 to locate underground utilities, before digging a hole.
3. Select a planting location at least 6-8 ft. from pavements, & 15 feet from the nearest building.
4. Dig a hole 2-3 times WIDER, but the SAME length/depth as the root ball.
5. Gently remove root ball from container and check for root defects e.g. circling roots; if present, slit circling roots at diagonal points of an 'X' around the root ball.
6. Carefully place tree in the planting hole and position top of root ball 1-2 inches above the soil level.
7. Straighten the tree.
8. Half-fill the planting hole with soil.
9. Fill planting hole with water to get rid of air pockets.
10. Finish backfilling the hole with soil.
11. Add mulch in an 8 ft. diameter 'doughnut' around the tree but keep it away from touching the trunk.
12. Water (1 gallon) daily first 2 weeks; next 2 months - every other day; next 3 months - weekly.

For more information, watch this video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dmmaemw4jo>