

GROUNDS / MOVERS  
**HORTICULTURIST**

Ref. Code: G-H-7

PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Digging.	1. Hitting electric lines, water lines, computer lines, etc.	1. Have electric shop or Miss Utility stake out area before beginning digging.
2. Digging holes using digging bar, pick, and shovel.	2a. Hitting foot.	2a. Be aware of where you are hitting. Keep your legs spread. Wear safety boots.
	2b. Back strain; shoulder ache.	2b. Do not overexert yourself.
	2c. Blisters; cut by debris in soil.	2c. Wear gloves.
	2d. Heat exhaustion in extremely hot weather.	2d. Take breaks as needed. Drink plenty of fluids.
	2e. Striking coworkers with tools.	2e. Be aware of where your fellow workers are. Always maintain a safe distance.
3. Lifting heavy weight.	3. Back strain; overexertion.	3. Know your weight lifting capacity and get help if needed. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight. Use mechanical lifting devices.
4. Cutting strings from burlap on balls of trees and shrubs.	4. Severe cuts and lacerations.	4. Keep hands away from blade. Cut away from yourself. Wear gloves.
5. Cutting wire baskets from tree balls using wire cutters.	5. Cuts; pinches; struck in face, eyes, or hands by wire.	5. Keep hands away from sharp wires. Wear gloves and safety glasses.

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<p>6. Putting trees and shrubs in hole.</p>	<p>6a. Back strain; overexertion; getting knocked down by tree trunk; dropping ball of tree or shrub on foot.</p>	<p>6a. Roll ball into the hole, letting the weight of the ball go into the hole. Know your weight lifting capacity and get help if needed. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight. Use the appropriate number of people to put shrubs and trees in holes. With large trees, three people are required—two to move the ball and one to guide the top of the tree. Work as a team to install trees and large shrubs. Make sure you work together when lowering tree or shrub to avoid dropping it on someone's foot. Keep feet out of the way when dropping tree or shrub into hole. Wear safety shoes.</p>
	<p>6b. Poked in eyes or stuck with thorns, sharp leaves, or branches.</p>	<p>6b. Wear gloves and safety glasses.</p>
	<p>6c. Tripping.</p>	<p>6c. Keep tools out of work area to avoid tripping hazard.</p>