A. Retain leader; **Do not** prune terminal leader or branch tips

B. Prune away dead or broken branches and any branches in way of pedestrians.

C. Remove nursery applied tree wrap, tape or string from tree trunk and crown. Remove any tags or labels.

D. Prune suckers off.

E. Set rootball level slightly above grade (1'-2"), finished soil grade being 2" below top of sidewalk. (Refer to Planting Operation in Specifications).

F. Mulch 2" deep leaving 3" circle of bare soil around trunk of tree.

G. Fold down or pull back string, burlap or plastic and/or wire basket from top 1/3 of rootball. Remove all non-degradable materials. **Do not** remove soil from rootball.

H. Center rootball in planting hole. Leave bottom of planting hole firm. **Do not** amend soil unless planting in poor or severely disturbed soil or building rubble. If amending soil is required, use a 3 to 1 ratio of topsoil / peat humus. Use water to settle soil and remove air pockets and firmly set tree. Gently tamp if needed.

I. Stake with two (2) 8' long wood "Tee" posts or approved equal driven 6"-8" outside of rootball. Loosely stake tree trunk to allow for trunk flexing. Stake trees just below first branch with 1"-3" wide polypropylene straps (2 per tree on opposite sides of tree, connect from tree to stake horizontally. **Do not** use rope or wire through a hose.) ArborTie is an acceptable product. Remove all staking materials after one (1) year, or as otherwise directed by City Forester.