



Simple. Natural. Hardwoods.

How to Manage Your Alder Seedlings

NWH is proud to partner with you in helping to restore the Alder population in the Pacific Northwest.

This guide provides a roadmap for successful seedling growth, making the most of your contribution to a resilient and diverse forest landscape. **Together we can help Alder trees flourish!**

Site Selection

Sun Exposure: Red Alder thrives in full sun or partial shade. Avoid areas with dense canopy cover that impedes light.

Soil Type: Opt for well-drained, fertile soils that retain moisture. Red to orange mineral soil, sandy loam or silt loam compositions are ideal. Avoid waterlogged sites that hinder root system development.

Elevation: Plant below 1,500 ft in Washington & northern Oregon and below 3,000 ft. in southern Oregon.

Spacing: Aim for a spacing of 8-10 ft between seedlings to facilitate optimal growth. Red Alder are self-pruning under the competitive conditions that come with close planting.

Planting Technique

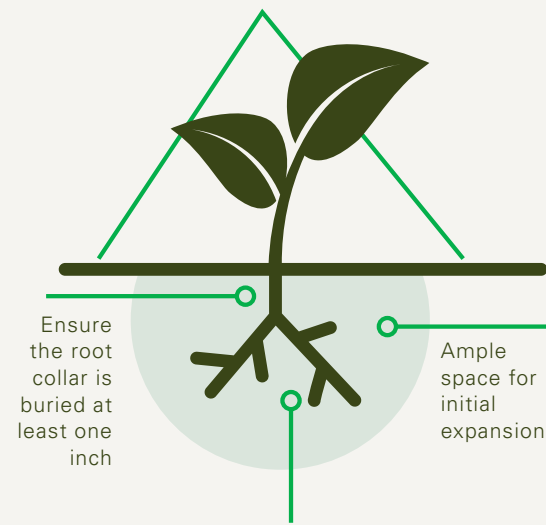
Timing: Plant during the cool, moist seasons: early spring (March-April) or early fall (September-October). Alder have thin bark and are susceptible to frost.

Handling: Use extra care as Alder stems are brittle and buds can be easily knocked off.

Root System Accommodation: Dig a planting hole twice the diameter and depth of the root system, ensuring ample space for initial expansion. Loosen the soil at the bottom to encourage root penetration.



Ensure the planting hole is twice the diameter and depth of the root system



Roots in the mineral soil and avoid planting 100% of plug into duff or rotten wood



How to Manage Your Alder Seedlings



Simple. Natural. Hardwoods.

Planting Depth: Make certain the roots get into the mineral soil and avoid planting 100% of plug into duff or rotten wood. The planting roots should not be scalped more than necessary to open the hole.

Root Collar Positioning: Ensure the root collar is buried at least one inch.

Mulching: Apply a 2-3 inch layer of organic mulch around the base of the seedling to retain moisture and suppress weeds.

Watering: Water the seedling thoroughly after planting. Maintain consistent moisture during the first growing season, especially during arid periods.

Post-Planting Care

Animal Protection: Consider fencing or tree tubes if necessary to protect seedlings from browsing animals, particularly during the vulnerable early stages.

Weed Control: Implement strategies to control competing vegetation around seedlings for the first few years, allowing them to establish strong root systems and maximize resource acquisition.

Monitoring: Regularly assess seedlings for signs of stress, such as discoloration, wilting, or insect damage. Address any issues promptly to ensure optimal growth.



The NWH Alder Seedling Program

We are committed to fostering a greener, more sustainable future.

We are thrilled to announce that NWH has successfully allocated all 35,000 alder seedlings for this year! This marks a significant step in our efforts to grow the Alder population in the Pacific Northwest.



Let's Do This Together!



Learn More

nwh.com/alder-seedlings

