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Formula for calculating mulch requirements

It is recommended that a **2 inch layer** of mulch be applied to landscape beds containing **trees and shrubs**.

It is recommended that a **1 inch layer** of mulch be applied to landscape beds containing **annuals, perennials, herbs and ground covers**.

Formula for the 2 inch layer:

To determine how much mulch is required for a 2 inch layer, figure the square footage of the bed by measuring the average length and width of the bed. Multiply the length by the width to figure the total square footage of the bed. Divide the total square footage by 160. The result will be the amount of yards required. (Sq. ft. divided by 160 = # yards needed.)

Formula for the 1 inch layer:

To determine how much mulch is required for a 1 inch layer, figure the square footage of the bed by measuring the average length and width of the bed. Multiply the length by the width to figure the total square footage of the bed. Divide the total square footage by 320. The result will be the amount of yards required. (Sq. ft. divided by 320 = # yards needed.)

We can deliver your mulch to your paved location at your property with our dump truck which can hold up to 12 yards of mulch. Heavier products such as Black Gold compost and topsoil must be hauled in smaller loads. Only 10 yards of Black Gold compost can be hauled per delivery, only 7 yards of topsoil can be hauled per delivery and only 7 yards of berm mix or Hartke mix can be hauled per delivery.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUCCESS WHEN PLANTING AZALEA OR
RHODODENDRON**

- STEP 1: Select a location where the plant will get shade from western and southern sun. Deciduous trees cannot be counted upon for shade in the winter. A northern or eastern side of a building, wall, fence or evergreen barrier is best.
- STEP 2: Dig the hole for the shrub at least 12 inches wider and 6 inches deeper than the container or the root ball of the plant. Fill the hole at least two thirds full with water to test for adequate drainage. Allow approximately an hour to pass and check to see if the water has drained away.
- STEP 3: If the water did not drain out of the hole, determine which direction is downhill and enlarge the hole by digging an oblong hole in the downhill direction. Lay a 4" layer of gravel such as pea gravel (NOT limestone) in the bottom of the hole with the deepest and lowest part of the hole being the downhill side of the oblong.
- STEP 4: Remove half of the soil you dug out to create the hole and add sphagnum peat moss until you have a 50/50% mix of soil with sphagnum peat moss. Mix the two thoroughly. You may add Copperas to the soil before mixing to increase the acidity of the soil as these plants prefer acid soil conditions. Follow package directions to determine how much to use. Set the plant into the hole and check for the proper height of the stem/soil level. The plant may be slightly elevated to allow for settling; however the general rule is to maintain the same soil/stem position as exists in the container or root ball. Once the proper height is attained, remove the plant from its container or, in the case of balled and burlapped plants, cut any possible constricting nylon twine and place the plant into the hole. Fill in the rest of the hole with the soil mixture. Water the new plant with a root stimulator; NOT fertilizer. Wait a year before fertilizing new shrubs.
- STEP 5: Maintenance: Fertilize and prune Azaleas and Rhododendrons AFTER FLOWERING! (Usually around the end of May.) Discontinue any fertilizing around the end of July to allow the plant to "harden off" any new tender growth before winter sets in. Mulch around the root area to protect the shallow roots from drastic temperature fluctuations and to retain moisture. Be sure that the plants get at least 1 inch of rain a week especially during the fall when they are developing the flower buds for the coming spring.
- STEP 6: **ENJOY!**

