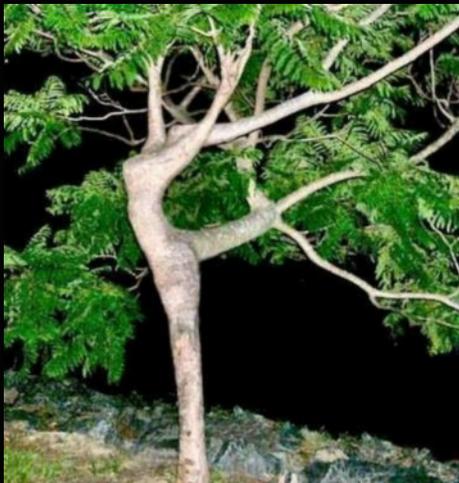




Cir 'Kill" ing Roots



Acer palmatum roots



**Grow Ready Liners
help roots flare to keep
your plants looking beautiful!**

According to Arborists we know, a major cause of tree failure is encircling roots. Years ago, the notion in the industry was that when planting a container tree, all you needed to do was score the roots around the outside of the root ball, and set it into the ground. You may get away with that practice with an annual or perennial, but you are asking for trouble if you do that with a tree. Of course it won't show up for decades, so the culprit (planter) will be long gone. But it seems if you go to all the trouble and expense of planting a tree, you would naturally want it to be sound and safe.

Encircling roots are caused when the roots of a plant meet the sides of a container. They will then turn down, sideways, or go back the direction from which they came. The ensuing mess will offer little or no support to the enlarging tree, and may eventually strangle the trunk. Encircling roots are caused when a tree is left in a container too long. We have also seen that the same holds for root bags.

In our Grow Ready Liner™ program, we solve the problem of circling roots by using state of the art root pruning containers. Our intention is to deliver to our customers a plant that can be planted directly into a larger container or into soil without having to worry about what is hidden in the root ball.



Liriodendron air-pruned roots

What's going on at the Nursery

It is 55 and overcast on February 27th as I write this. The crocus and daffodils are in bloom in our landscape. Spring is on the way in Oregon. We are well into our shipping season with about 1/3 of our product down the road. Field crews are busy grafting cherries, cutting back understocks, staking and taping. At the container yard we are building another acre and a half of greenhouse and beginning to pot our spring schedule. Propagation is getting liners ready for planting. In the office we are working on the 2013/2014 catalog. Sales for spring are up a bit over last year. After many years of too many plants in the production cycle and severe cut backs in plantings, it looks like we will sell through a good share of what we produced. We are thankful for that. The nursery is planning a small increase in planting for 2013. Most of this is in the GRL™ department. I want to thank you for choosing Robinson Nursery as a supplier. Our best to you. ~Rick