



LARGE TREE WILLOW CARE

LIGHT

Large willows, including white or golden weeping willow, Babylon weeping willow, and black willow, grow best in full sun. Choose a genuinely spacious site for a large crown and extensive roots. Keep well away from buildings, paving, drains, septic systems, and overhead wires; these are unsuitable trees for confined gardens.

WATER

Water slowly through the root ball and surrounding soil after planting. Check moisture regularly and water deeply when needed, keeping roots consistently moist during establishment. Adjust for rain, weather, and soil conditions rather than a fixed daily schedule. A new root ball can dry out even beside damp ground.

SOIL & PLANTING

Provide dependable moisture. These willows suit moist to wet sites, with black willow especially associated with wet ground. Keep the root flare visible and mulch lightly away from the trunk. Avoid compacting roots or planting where future trenching, foundations, or paving will conflict with their broad root system.

FEEDING

Use a soil test to guide fertilizer and pH changes. Healthy willows may need little feeding. If nutrients are needed, apply a modest spring dose of tree or shrub fertilizer at the label rate. Avoid heavy nitrogen and late-season feeding; fertilizer cannot correct poor siting or damaged roots.

SEASONAL CARE

Develop a sound framework while young and remove broken, dead, or rubbing branches selectively. Have an arborist assess large limbs and storm damage. Avoid topping or starting an informal pollarding routine on a mature tree; specialized pollarding must be planned early and maintained consistently.

HELPFUL TIPS

Fast growth and relatively brittle wood mean regular inspection is useful, especially after storms. Weeping branches are normal on weeping selections. Check the specific tree's cold hardiness for the site. Keep the root area moist during drought and investigate cankers or progressive dieback before choosing treatment.