

Home Orchard Society welcomes you to the

# Fruit Propagation Fair

***Start creating your own fruit trees!***

## Information table

### When in doubt, ask our experts!

We can help you select the rootstocks and fruit varieties suitable for your space and preferences. We can point you toward people to talk to, books to check out, or varieties to try!

## Rootstock Sales

Your tree's rootstock affects the tree's size, soil tolerance, cold hardiness, and disease resistances. For help choosing, ask at the **Information Table**. Know what you want before getting in line to purchase!

## Scions

This is the fun part! Scions from 100's of varieties of apples and pears (and more!) are collected from orchards all over the state by HOS volunteers for building your new trees. Scions are free, and varieties are alphabetized by species in their own white buckets! Make sure to mark each variety you choose, they're easy to mix up!

## Grafting Service

Expert volunteers will graft your new scions onto your rootstocks for a minimal fee!

## Graft-it-Yourself

Did you attend our annual February grafting classes? Take your scions and rootstocks home and graft your own trees! (Carefully!)

***Are you here today to:***

Buy mason bees from the **Arboretum**?

Pick up a pre-ordered "Make-a-Tree"?

Browse the **Plant Sale** tables?

***Proceed to those areas!***

## Cuttings

Free! We have kiwi, fig, currant, grape (and more!) cuttings available that don't need rootstocks or require grafting - an easier process than grafting. Varieties are alphabetized by species in white buckets for your convenience.

## Publications

Don't miss the books! Purchase some HOS recommended titles to add to your library, including propagation guides, cookbooks, disease management texts and organic fruit-growing manuals!

## Here are some definitions to get you started!

**Vegetative propagation:** the multiplication of a specimen of a plant by asexual (without seeds) processes, such as grafting, cuttings, or division.

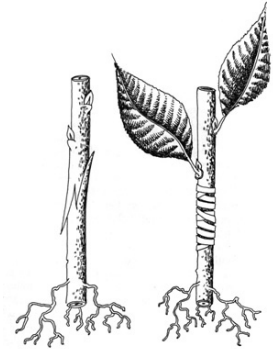
**Cutting:** a piece of vegetative material from a parent plant that becomes a new plant by forming roots at its base when placed in ideal rooting conditions. Figs, grapes, currants and kiwi are all propagated by cuttings.

**Grafting:** uniting parts of two separate plants to combine some of the benefits of each; the desirable root system of the rootstock and the desirable fruit variety of the scion. Pears, apples, plums, cherries, peaches are all propagated by grafting.

**Scion:** a piece of vegetative growth from the plant to be propagated (parent plant) which forms the top growth of the grafted tree, or the "variety" of fruit.

**Rootstock:** a rooted cutting or seedling tree that becomes the root system for a scion during the grafting process. Most rootstocks belong to the same genus and species as those of the scion grafted onto them.

**Grafted tree:** a tree formed by grafting a scion from the desired variety onto a rootstock suited to your climate, soils, and size requirements.



Visit us at [www.homeorchardsociety.org](http://www.homeorchardsociety.org) for more information

*Growing good fruit at home*

# Newly Grafted Trees: AFTER CARE!

Our grafters do their best they can to give you a successful graft on your new tree. Once you get home, be sure to continue the care by following some simple guidelines. Even the best grafters have failures, so please contact us if a graft never grows, and we'll do our best to help replace it.

**1. Be careful! These little guys are very fragile!**

- \* Always hold a newly grafted tree by the rootstock, below the graft.
- \* The graft union needs to be protected from tipping/bumping on the way home
- \* Give the tree a safe place at home, free of rambunctious activity and curious animals.

**2. If your new tree is bare root, it needs to be planted!**

- \* A potting soil/compost blend and a one gallon pot will be a great start for the tree.
- \* Plant the tree in the pot so that the roots start just below the soil surface.
- \* Tamp the soil in firmly, and water it well!

**3. While the graft union heals, try to provide your tree with "spring conditions"**

- \* Sunlight, regular watering, 50-70°F temperatures when possible
- \* Try to keep it out of deluges, freezes, high winds, and baking hot sun

**4. More than an inch of new growth from the buds on the scion indicates the graft has succeeded ("taken").**

**5. If the buds try to push leaves that never get very big, and shrivel and die, the graft failed.** If your rootstock is still alive, bring it to our summer budding class, and we'll try grafting it again!

**6. If you can, leave your new tree in its pot the first summer of growth.**

- \* Keep it close by, where it will get watered (almost every day!) and fertilized.
- \* Planting too soon when the graft is still unproven subjects the wound to stress.

Pets, kids, lawnmowers are all a risk to these tiny guys. If you want to plant them in the ground their first year, give them a temporary home in a nursery bed, close by and well-fenced for easy monitoring and care.

**7. Plant them in their permanent home in late February when they are about a year old!**



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[info@homeorchardsociety.org](mailto:info@homeorchardsociety.org)

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