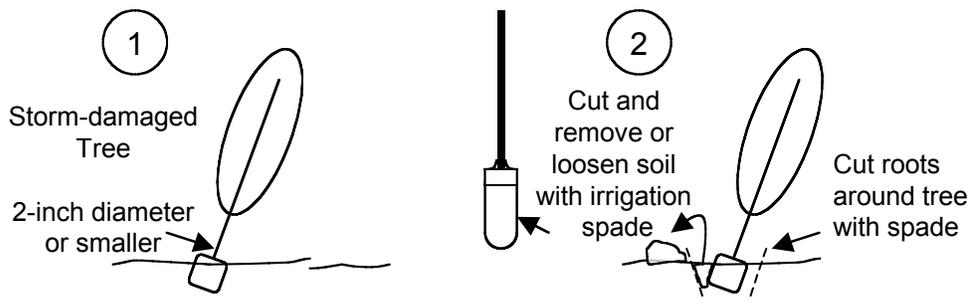


## Straightening Trees

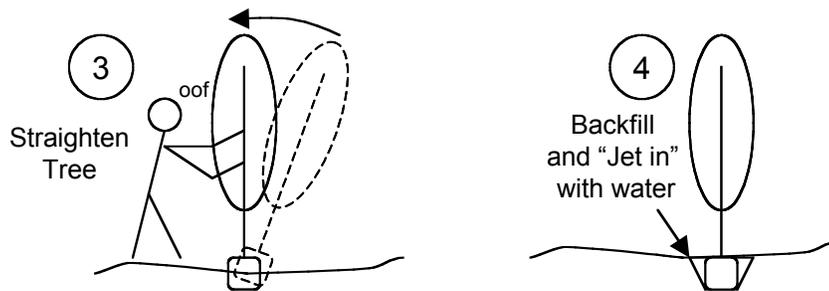
Reprinted from the February 2005 Cypress Isles News

### Straightening Small Trees (trunk diameter 2 inches or less)

If the tree is leaning but firmly rooted, loosen the entire tree by cutting around the base with a sharp spade to make a new "root ball." Remove soil to make room for the tree to roll into place.

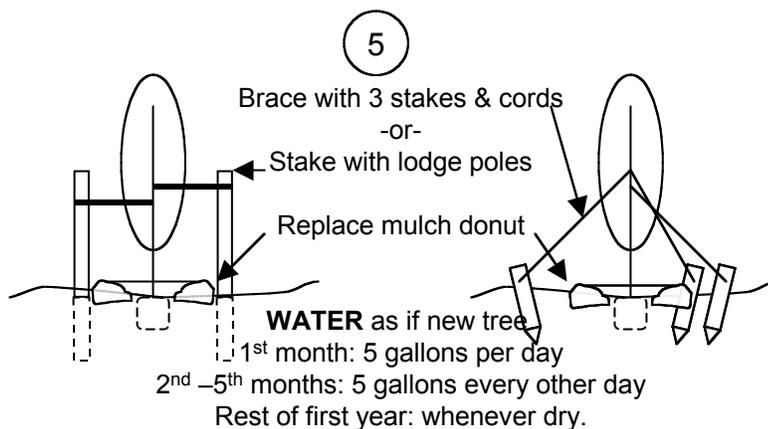


Once the tree is loose, set it straight and replace the soil. Add about 1/3 of the soil, add water, dig into the wet soil to remove air pockets, then add another 1/3 and repeat until filled. This procedure essentially



"transplants" the tree into the same location.

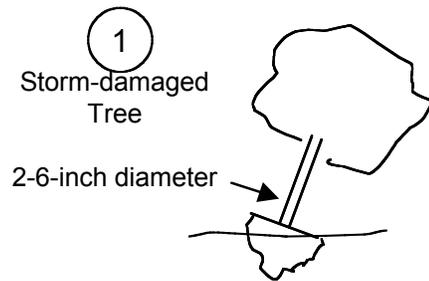
Hold the tree in place, either by tying it to 2 lodge poles set in the ground on opposite sides of the tree, or by tying it to 3 stakes equally spaced around the tree. Wrap the trunk in burlap where the ropes are to



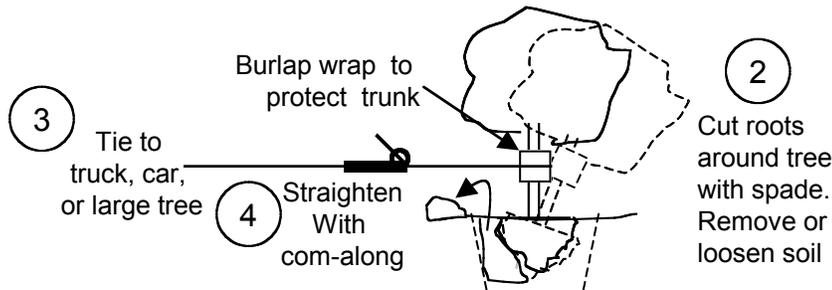
prevent damaging the bark.

Frequent watering makes roots grow, especially during the first 6 months. Water the tree as if it were a new tree: 5 gallons per day for the 1st month; 5 gallons every other day for months 2, 3, 4, and 5; then whenever the soil gets dry for the rest of the year and in subsequent years.

### *Straightening Medium Trees (2-inch to 6-inch trunk diameter)*

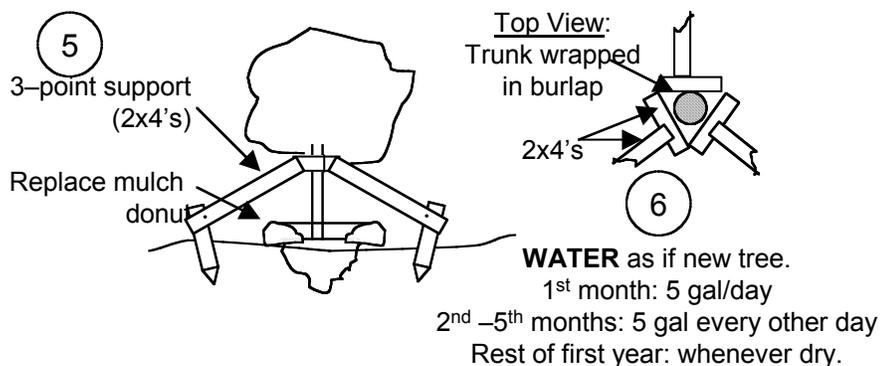


If the tree is leaning but firmly rooted, loosen the entire tree by cutting around the base with a sharp spade to make a new "root ball." Remove soil to make room for the tree to roll into place.



Wrap the trunk in burlap or heavy cloth to protect the bark during the straightening. Tie one end of a strong rope or strap to an immovable object, such as the towing hooks on a truck or car, or the base of a nearby large tree. Use a come-along or similar device to slowly straighten the tree.

Once the tree is loose, set it straight and replace the soil. Add about 1/3 of the soil, add water, dig into the wet soil to remove air pockets, then add another 1/3 and repeat until filled. This procedure essentially



“transplants” the tree into the same location.

Wrap the trunk in burlap where it will be braced to prevent damaging the bark. Hold the tree in place with a sturdy 3-point support, such as 2x4 braces connected to short 2x4's around the trunk and to 2x4 stakes in the ground.

Frequent watering makes roots grow, especially during the first 6 months. Water the tree as if it were a new tree: 5 gallons per day for the 1st month; 5 gallons every other day for months 2, 3,4, and 5; then whenever the soil gets dry for the rest of the year and in subsequent years.