

## Volunteer Instructions – Potting Hemlock Saplings

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING to participate in this project to pot hemlock saplings that will ultimately be used for replanting, donated to schools and other nonprofits, or offered for adoption. The potting involves use of a special amendment mix to enhance the soil structure and nutritional content, a moisture retention product to help drought-proof the little trees, and a special initial watering mix containing root stimulator and 5-year protection against the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).

1. Fill pot half way with planting mix.
2. Sprinkle ¼ teaspoon Soil Moist granules on top of dirt in pot.
3. Place bamboo stake (24” or taller) in middle of pot.
4. Carefully remove sapling and root ball from bag and place in pot with stem next to stake.
5. Spread roots on top of soil.
6. Add enough planting mix to just cover roots and press down firmly to remove air pockets. Be sure no roots are sticking up above the soil.
7. Secure the stem to the stake with a 2-3” piece of velcro tape. Tape should be placed about 2/3 of the way up the stem and wrapped loosely enough to insert a finger in the loop.
8. Water gently with 1/2 qt. initial watering solution per one-gallon container. If this causes any roots to become exposed, add more planting mix to just cover them and press down again.
9. Place potted saplings in shade.
10. An hour later, press dirt down gently again.



Save Georgia's Hemlocks • 37 Woody Bend • Dahlonega, GA 30533  
Hemlock Help Line<sup>SM</sup> 706-429-8010 • [donna@SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org](mailto:donna@SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org)  
[www.SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org](http://www.SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org)

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