

# ***VOLCANOES KILLING TREES IN NEW JERSEY***



**This is the *wrong*  
way to use mulch  
around a tree.**

**Never pile mulch  
against bark!**

**Mulch volcanoes are  
killing our trees!**

## **What do I need to know to mulch trees the right way?**

- Start 6 inches from the tree trunk at ground level and mulch outward to the edge of the dripline to a maximum depth of 2 inches to 4 inches.
- Keep a 2-inch to 4-inch layer around, but not touching the base of the tree. Mulch as much of the area under a tree as possible without having mulch touch the trunk.
- Never pile-up a cone of mulch around the tree trunk! Mice, insects, and fungus may hide next to the trunk and feed on parts of the tree. The cone-shaped mulch piles and thick layers of mulch also prevent water from reaching a tree's roots. Tree roots that grow up into the cone of mulch on top of the soil cannot be healthy.
- One layer of woven Landscape Fabric may be used under mulch in heavy weed areas. Never use plastic sheets under the mulch. Plastic sheets block the passage of air and water and stunt root growth.
- Every spring or every other spring, rake or remove any hard crust and add only enough new mulch to maintain a 2-inch to 4-inch layer. Never build up layers of mulch by adding new mulch on top of the old mulch around a tree.

See video below for proper way to mulch a tree

<https://www.facebook.com/97073488689/videos/10154523202523690/>