

Get DIRTY, plant a TREE!

We need shade and we also need more oxygen as there is too much carbon dioxide from fossil fuels.

Animals and birds need food and shelter.

Trees are the answer.

But,

Aliens do not support the local animals and birds.

Aliens hog the water and nutrients in the soil.

So, let's get dirty, dig a few holes and plant some indigenous life.

With global warming looming, trees can absorb millions of tons of carbon dioxide from our atmosphere and they can moderate the weather.

Create a TSC paradise - Plant a tree, plant a future and for shade, just add water.

Tree Facts

- Trees lower air temperature through the evaporation of water from their leaves.
- Trees cut down noise pollution by acting as sound barriers.
- Tree roots stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.
- Trees provide food and shelter for wildlife.
- One acre of trees produces enough oxygen for 18 people annually. One tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year.
- One acre of trees removes up to 2.6 tons of carbon dioxide each year.
- Shade trees can make buildings up to 20 degrees cooler in the summer.

Why the war on aliens?

- Alien plants destroy the intricate balance between species and the natural competition for the same resources of water, heat, light and nutrition.
- They become rampant as they have no natural enemies and parasites such as fungi, viruses, bacteria, insects etc that they had in their place of origin.
- They multiply rapidly and force out the indigenous species and in doing so, they destroy the food supply of local indigenous insects, birds, reptiles etc. and impoverish the soil and drain it of valuable moisture.
- According the DWS, alien species in South Africa consume a volume of water equivalent to 70 Theewater Dams a year!
- TSC adjoins a conservation area and harbouring aliens places an added pressure on that area.

Planting guide

Be warned. It is not easy to plant trees at TSC. It is futile to just dig a hole, bung a tree in it and expect it to grow.

- Dig a large hole
- Backfill with good soil and compost as the soil at TSC hardens and compacts in summer and becomes waterlogged in winter.
- If planting on a flat area, create a slight mound with a surrounding moat. This raises the tree slightly but at the same time it can get moisture from the moat.
- To assist over dry periods, water the tree thoroughly and then plant a 5 litre plastic bottle and make a few pin holes in it and ensure that the trickle is slow enough for the water to last a long time. Loosen the lid.
- Attach a protector around the base of the tree trunk to protect it from weed-eaters. These ring-bark trees and kill them!
- Advise the manager when you have planted your trees so they can hopefully be included in a watering programme.
- Remove other alien species from your site, especially if it threatens your new tree.
- Visit regularly to tend to your trees.
- Sit back and watch your trees grow.