



*Gardeners Helping Gardeners Succeed*

2450 S. Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703

Tel:775-882-8600 Fax:775-882-7285

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[www.greenhousegardencenter.com](http://www.greenhousegardencenter.com)

## Easy Black Box Removal Directions

1. Place the tree and the box at the desired location with the best side facing the way you want.
2. Lay tree and box on their side and dig the hole. The hole should be at least 8 inches bigger than the box and no deeper than the soil level in the box. Dig at least 4 inches under the back edge of the box, so the tree can slide easily into the hole.
3. Remove the (4) nuts and bolts holding the side that is facing towards the sky and the (2) remaining nuts and bolts that hold the bottom of a 31" box. (The 24" or smaller box requires removal of (1) nut and bolt on both sides of the panel facing the sky to remove the bottom). Check the depth of your hole so that it matches the soil of the root ball in the box. The top of the root ball should be at soil level or one inch higher than the surrounding grade.
4. Once the bottom is removed, stand in the hole, and push the right panel of the box towards the top of the tree while pulling the adjoining panel towards the bottom of the box to release the tabs. Once the right side is released, proceed to the left side, and pull this side towards the bottom of the box. This allows the panel facing the sky to lift off.
5. Get out of the hole but do not use the box as leverage. Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of water to the hole and allow it to drain away. Using the 3 joined panels, gently stand up the tree, allowing it and the box to slide into the hole.
6. Remove the remaining 3 panels of the box from the hole and position the tree. Backfill the hole.
7. Put the box together and return it for your deposit.

