<u>Planting Instructions – Commercial Ground Models</u>

1. Do **NOT** Fill your Planter(s) until you've transported the planter to its location. Once filled, the planter will be heavy so filling the reservoir should be done at the end of the installation process.

NOTE: YOUR PLANTER IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO USE A PEAT-BASED SOIL-LESS GROWING MEDIUM, WE RECOMMEND

PRO MIX BX MYCORRHIZAE.

NEVER USE DIRT, BARK OR COMPOST-BASED SOIL AS THIS WILL INTERFERE WITH THE PROPER OPERATION OF YOUR PLANTER. YOU CAN LOCATE YOUR NEAREST PRO-MIX DISTRIBUTOR HERE;

https://www.pthorticulture.com/en/products/pro-mix-bx-mycorrhizae/

No Distributor in your area? Try the Store Locator https://www.promixgardening.com/en/store-locator

2. Begin by wetting the Pro Mix as you add the soil to the planter (mix should be spongy not soaked). Make sure to fill the entire center wick. Osmocote or other slow-release fertilizer should also be incorporated into the soil, especially the upper layers. This will provide feeding for up to 3 months. Follow instructions and application rates closely. A liquid fertilization should also be scheduled weekly or bi-weekly depending on your growth goals. This will provide more immediate nutrients to keep your plants healthy and vibrant, especially during the heat of summer. Each plant is different so you should consult with your local nursery professional on the best option for your plantings.

Step #2 is critical to the operation of your planter. Soil must be wet to prime the wick and ensure immediate selfwatering benefits.

- **3.** Do not compress the soil while adding, it should remain loose. Continue filling until approximately 2-3" from the top of the planter.
- **4.** Begin planting. We recommend young plants with a developing root system. If planting a mature root ball make sure it's the correct size for your planter. Also, be sure to loosen the soil around the root ball by gently compressing with your hands. You can also gently spray with a hose until the soil is loose and the roots are exposed. Once complete the root ball can be placed into your Planter.
- 5. Begin filling the water reservoir by removing the Top-Fill Plug and place your hose into the opening.
- 6. When the planter is full you will see and hear water coming out of the bottom. This is our internal overflow system that ensures your planter cannot be overfilled and is a part of the planter's normal operation.
- 7. Always replace the Top-Fill Plug after filling your planter. This keeps debris from entering the water reservoir.
- **8.** Water the plants from the top to ensure the soil is completely moist. Once complete top watering is only required if you're planting in the summer and/or planting during extreme weather conditions. If this is the case you should top water your plants every other day for the first 7-10 days.