CITY OF BUFFALO

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS & STREETS
DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION

BYRON W. BROWN
MAYOR

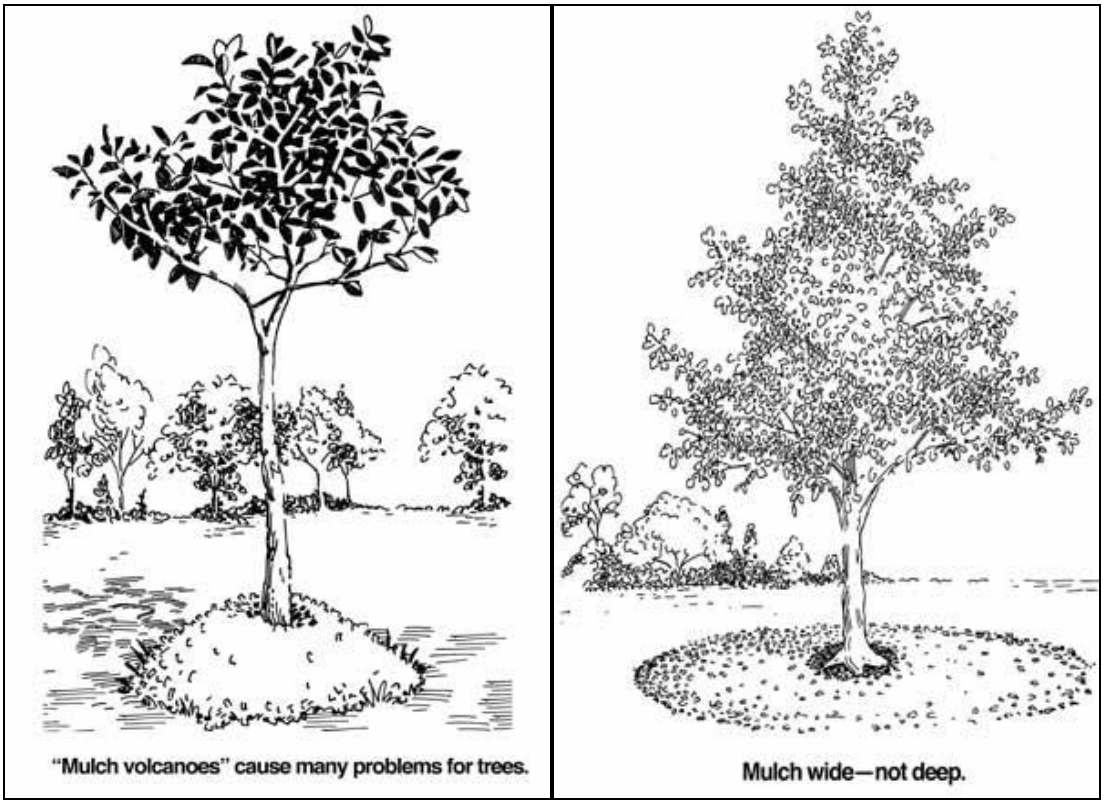
STEVEN J. STEPNIAK
COMMISSIONER

ANDREW R. RABB
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

HELP STOP 'VOLCANO' MULCHING

There are many benefits to proper mulching around trees. Mulch can help maintain soil moisture, control weed growth, improve soil aeration, increase soil fertility, and just looks good! However, the improper method of placing large amounts of mulch against the base of the tree, also known as volcano mulching, can do serious harm to your tree, causing undue stress, root suckers and basal decay.

INCORRECT | **CORRECT**



- Check the depth of mulch when applying, to prevent the buildup of old matted layers.
- Do not put more than 2 to 4 inches of mulch below a tree, spread out wide beneath the canopy.
- If there is mulch piled directly against the trunk, pull it back a few inches to expose the root flare.

65 NIAGARA SQUARE / 505 CITY HALL / BUFFALO, NY 14202-3373 / (716) 851-9672 / FAX: (716) 851-5200 / Email: arabb@city-buffalo.com