1. First, you’ll need your native plant, an area to plant it in, a shovel, pick, or other tool for digging a hole, and some water! Keep in mind that your plant will get bigger, so allow it enough space to grow!

2. Start by digging a hole. This hole should be about twice the width and depth of the container the plant is in.

3. Fill the hole about halfway with water. This is to give the plant a soft, moist base to sink into.

4. Allow the water to soak into the soil, then add back some of the removed material. The time needed for the water to soak in will depend on the moisture of your soil!

5. Once the water has soaked in, it’s time to plant your plant! Start by removing the plant from the container by squeezing the sides to loosen up the roots, then gently placing your hand over the top of the soil in the container, and gently tipping the container over (be careful not to crush your plant!). With luck, the plant should slide out on your first try. If not, try squeeze the sides a couple more times and try again!

6. Loosen up the roots at the bottom of the plant.

7. Carefully flip the plant over, and place it into the ground. Make sure the soil from the container is level with the ground!

8. If the top of the container soil is not level with the ground, add back some of your removed material to get it to the correct level. Remember to add some water as well if you add back a lot of soil!

9. If needed, fill in around the sides of the plant by adding back removed material or widening the hole at a gentle slope.

10. Once the space around your plant is filled in, fill the basin with water. Let the water soak in, and repeat 3-5 times, depending on your soil!

11. If you are choosing to use mulch, gravel, or another topper, add it on top of the soil once the water has soaked in.

12. Congratulations! Your plant is installed! Now it’s time to irrigate. Deep, infrequent waterings are better than shallow, frequent ones.

Want to see an example of how to plant a native plant? Scan this QR code with a smartphone or tablet camera to watch a video tutorial!