Native Plant Propagation

Air Layering

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Air Layering

Steps

- Choose a branch
- Cut and strip bark
- Apply rooting hormone
- Prepare and apply moss
- Cover with plastic
- Cover with aluminum foil
- Wait
Choosing a Branch

Pick a healthy, non-flowering branch that is the size and shape of the plant you want to produce.

Choose a spot on the branch that will result in a proper prune when the air layer is removed.

Note: Plants used for demonstration are not native plants;
Air Layering Procedures

Make two incisions in the bark, one inch apart, around the diameter of the branch and connect with another incision.
Remove the bark between the incisions using the connecting incision as a starting point.
Air Layering Procedure

Apply rooting hormone
Air Layering Procedure

Place damp, not wet, sphagnum moss around the wound. Squeeze the moss.
Air Layering Procedure

Compress and shape sphagnum moss to cover the wound - about one to two inches on either side of the wound.
Air Layering Procedure

Cover with plastic.
Air Layering Procedure

Cover with aluminum foil, (I prefer heavy duty), and twist tight.
Air Layering

Maintenance

• Continue to wait
• Check for roots
• Cut branch
• Pot
• Keep in moist soil and in shade until root system has started
Maintenance of Air Layering

Leave it alone for a few months.
Check occasionally for roots. Be sure to rewrap.
Air Layering Completed

Process completed; pot and keep in shaded area with moist soil until plant has a chance to build a root system.
Air Layering Completed
The End