

# How to procure woodchips & mulch

## Important tips

- Determine how much mulch/woodchips you need by using a landscape calculator like [LandscapeCalculator.com](https://www.landscapecalculator.com).
- Understand pros and cons of paid and free options:
  - **Paying for mulch and woodchips:** You get exactly what you need when you need it, but at an expense.
  - **Pursuing free options:** You don't have to pay, but delivery and quality can be inconsistent. Free options can also contain a lot of leaves and pine needles, or sometimes invasive species or poison ivy.
- **When getting mulch delivered:** Provide detailed instructions including address, gate lock combinations (if needed) and your contact information.

## Where to find mulch

### Paid options

- **Hammond Farms:** Five locations, including 5834 N. Michigan Rd., Dimondale, MI 48821
- **Lansing Gardens:** 1434 E. Jolly Rd., Lansing, MI 48910

### Free options

- Free options are often large loads of up to 20 cubic yards (enough to cover 14 parking places with 3 inches of mulch).
- **Chip Drop**
  - Allows you to place a request that will be connected with multiple arborists.
  - May take 2 days or 2 years to fulfill requests depending on how many arborists in your area participate in Chip Drop.
  - For more information, visit [GetChipDrop.com/For-Gardeners/](https://www.getchipdrop.com/for-gardeners/)

- **Calling arborists**

- Calling tree trimming companies to see if they would be willing to dump chips in your garden is always an option.
- Companies often prefer to dump chips close to where they are currently working.
- You can also drive around with woodchip drop instructions that include a garden map and contact information to hand them to arborists working in the area – this is a great way to ensure delivery.
- Quality can vary widely depending on your relationship arborists.
- Be clear about how many loads you want, otherwise many arborists will keep dumping until they are done tree trimming.