

## How to use our heavy duty (1000 gauge) soaking bags

We would like you to be able to use the soaking bag time and again, so please follow these instructions. The following items will be of use; pegs or a cable tie, a brick or large stone and jugs of water.



### Filling the bag

- ✓ Carefully slide the willow into the bag. The willow can remain tied together. To allow the willow to lie flatter, simply slide the ties up from the butt ends (the bottom of the willow) towards the tips (the top of the willow)



### How much willow to add

A **6" soaking bag** will hold a small handful of 5ft willow (around 250 grams)

A **10" soaking bag** will hold up to 2kg of 5ft willow

A **large 10" soaking bag** will accommodate 3 - 4kg of 7ft willow

A **medium 12" soaking bag** will hold up to 4kg of 5ft willow

A **large 12" soaking bag** will accommodate 5 – 6 kg of 7ft willow

- ✓ Next, add water to the bag. **Fill the bag where you intend to store/use it. If you try and move a bag filled with willow and water it is likely to puncture or split**

**\*\*\*DO NOT FILL THE BAG COMPLETELY WITH WATER\*\*\***

### How much water to add

A **6" soaking bag** should be filled with around **7 litres** of water

A **10" soaking bag** should be filled with approximately **20 litres** of water

- A **large 10" soaking bag** should be filled with around **27 litres** of water
- A **medium 12" soaking bag** should be filled with around **30 litres** of water
- A **large 12" soaking bag** should be filled with approximately **35 litres** of water



- ✓ Once the water has been added, press down to flatten the willow and remove some of the air
- ✓ Fold over the open end of the bag and secure with pegs or a cable tie



- ✓ Water should not seep out, but a brick or similar item can be used to prop up the end



- ✓ Around half the willow should be submerged in water, so carefully turn the bag over twice a day
- ✓ For soaking times visit <https://www.musgrovewillows.co.uk/help-advice>

### Once soaked

- ✓ Undo the pegs / cable tie and gently raise the other end of the bag to allow the water to drain out
- ✓ Leave the willow in the bag to mellow overnight (or carefully remove it and wrap in hessian)
- ✓ Once the willow has been removed from the bag, let the bag dry out so it will be ready to use again