



Northampton Rotary Club April 16, 2022 Day of Service Tree Planting Project

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Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta has challenged every Rotary Club across the globe to conduct a Day of Service in their community. Rotary clubs in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts are each planning a Day of Service during the month of April.

In keeping with Rotary International's newest area of focus, Protecting the Environment, the Northampton Rotary Club is working with the City of Northampton and the non-profit, Tree Northampton, to organize a tree planting event from 9 AM to 12 Noon on Saturday, April 16 at Jackson Street and RK Finn Ryan Road Elementary Schools.

Our key contacts for the project are Richard Parasiliti Jr., Superintendent - Tree Warden, Department of Public Works, and liaison to the City of Northampton Urban Forestry Commission, and Susan Lofthouse, Vice Chair of the Commission.

Northampton Rotary is responsible for lining up 20-24 volunteers who will work in teams of two to plant 15 trees at each school site. Anyone interested in volunteering is invited to contact Day of Service Chair Barbara Devlin at bdevlinmn@gmail.com.

In addition to soliciting volunteers, our club is inviting contributions to the Northampton Rotary Foundation in support of the Tree Project. Any contributions received will be used to purchase trees, compost, and other tree planting supplies from vendors recommended by the Tree Warden, for use in future tree plantings. Monetary contributions to support the tree planting project may be directed to the Northampton Rotary Foundation, Inc., PO Box 505, Northampton, MA 01061.

Finally, Northampton Rotary Club is working to increase awareness of the City's Setback Tree Planting Program, in hopes of generating additional applications for setback trees to be planted on business and residential properties within the City.

The Northampton Rotary Club is one of nearly 35,000 clubs across the globe, totaling 1.4 million members. For more than 100 years, Rotary's primary motto has been "Service Above Self" – encapsulating the philosophy of giving back to one's community.