

WHY PLANT SHADE TREES?



CLEANER AIR

REDUCE STORMWATER
RUNOFF

HEALTHIER ECOSYSTEMS

REDUCE SUMMER HEAT

NOISE BUFFERING

TRAFFIC CALMING

FOOD FOR WILDLIFE AND
POLLINATORS

ENHANCED PROPERTY VALUE

IMPROVED SENSE OF WELL
BEING

ENHANCED OUTDOOR
RECREATION

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON TREE WARDEN

The Tree Warden is charged with managing shade trees within the City's public right-of-way and parks. On a day-to-day basis, a tree warden manages activities related to, but not limited to:

- Pruning of trees to mitigate risk and improve vigor
- Removal of trees that are in dead or dying condition
- Identification of planting sites
- Planting new trees
- Writing grant proposals



More information can be found at the Tree Warden website: <https://northamptonma.gov/1809/Tree-Warden>.

URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Northampton's seven member Urban Forestry Commission preserves, protects and promotes City shade trees. The Commission advises and assists the Tree Warden and Mayor in researching and developing plans, programs and policies for achieving a tree canopy that supports Northampton's goals of public health, beautification, economic and environmental sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change.

Meetings:

The Commission meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month virtually. All agendas and minutes can be found on the City's Agenda Center website:



<https://www.northamptonma.gov/AgendaCenter>

TREE NORTHAMPTON, INC.

Tree Northampton is a private citizens' group promoting ecological stewardship of Northampton, MA through education, advocacy and volunteer participation. Tree Northampton volunteers support Northampton's tree initiative by planting and caring for trees all around the city. To get involved, visit www.treenorthampton.org or email treenorthampton@gmail.com



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS



SETBACK TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE



1 Fill out the Setback Tree Request Form: <https://forms.gle/mCwkjxDw19nu8hgn6> and you will be contacted to schedule a site visit.



2 During the site visit we will discuss tree location, species and expectation of care during the growing season.

3 Complete the provided Permission and Agreement Form which requires a notarized signature and submit to the Tree Warden.



4 Tree Northampton volunteers will notify you when the tree is available and schedule a planting date.

5 Tree Northampton volunteers will come plant the tree and you are welcome to come help! Access to a hose or spigot on planting day is greatly appreciated.

WHAT IS A SETBACK TREE?

Trees planted within 20 feet of the right-of-way are available free from the City of Northampton through the “Setback Tree Initiative.” Trees planted further from the street suffer less exposure to winter salts, have more space to develop more extensive root systems, which leads to an increased chance of survival. Setback trees provide beauty and shade to walkers and bikers, calm traffic and enhance habitat. They mitigate stormwater runoff, decreasing the risk of flash floods and protect our rivers and streams.

WHAT IS THE NORTHAMPTON PERMISSION AND AGREEMENT FORM?

The Permission and Agreement Form is a notarized document that gets filed at the Registry of Deeds. It states that the tree(s) shall be a protected public shade tree under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 87, Section 1. It also grants permission for the Tree Warden or the Tree Warden’s designee to enter your property to prune, water and care for the tree(s).

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY TREE IS PLANTED?

DPW employees will pick up any debris, stake if necessary and install a slow release watering device. During severely hot summers, DPW may also augment this watering device. In future years, volunteers will come to prune your tree and will return as needed for the years to come. Please email treenorthampton@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

WHAT KINDS OF TREES ARE ON THE APPROVED PLANTING LIST?

Baldcypress

Tuliptree

Hawthorn

Sweetgum

Linden

Dawn Redwood

Elm Cultivars

Hornbeam

Yellowwood

Kentucky Coffeetree

London Planetree

Black Gum

Ginkgo

Redbud

Swamp White Oak

IF YOU HAVE A SPECIAL REQUEST, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

TREE SPECIES VARY DUE TO SEASON, SITE CONDITIONS AND AVAILABLE STOCK AT PLANTING TIME.