

WHY PLANT SHADE TREES?



CLEANER AIR

REDUCED STORM WATER
RUNOFF

HEALTHIER ECOSYSTEMS

NOISE BUFFERING

TRAFFIC CALMING

FOOD FOR WILDLIFE AND
POLLINATORS

ENHANCED PROPERTY
VALUES

IMPROVED SENSE OF WELL
BEING

ENHANCED RECREATION,
SUCH AS WALKING, BIKING
OR JUST BEING OUTSIDE

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON TREE WARDEN

Rich Parasiliti Jr., was named 2019 MA Tree Warden of the Year!

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

- Pruning of trees for safety and health
- Removal of trees that are dead or dying
- Identification of planting sites
- Planting new trees
- Writing grant proposals

The City of Northampton's Tree Warden is appointed by the Mayor and is an employee of the Department of Public Works.

PUBLIC SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Northampton's seven member Public Shade Tree 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, 4:30-6:30pm, in the second floor Hearing Room of City Hall (210 Main Street, Northampton). Each meeting begins with a public comment period and public input and volunteer support are welcome!

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 program 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 PROGRAM



1

Fill out the Setback Tree Request Form: <https://forms.gle/mCwkjxDw19nu8hgn6> and the Tree Warden will get in touch with you to schedule a site visit.

2

During the site visit, discuss location and species of tree(s), and the expectation of resident to water trees regularly during growing season.

3

Call or e-mail Tree Warden to finalize the Permission and Agreement Form and species choice: 413-587-1570 x4317 rparasiliti@northamptonma.gov

4

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

5

Tree Northampton volunteers will come plant your 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 Program.” Trees planted further from the street suffer less exposure to winter salts, have more space to develop healthy roots, and live longer. 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 protecting 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 your tree(s) shall be a protected public shade tree under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Section 1, Chapter 87. It also grants permission for the Tree Warden or his/her designee to enter your land to prune, water and care for your tree(s).

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY TREE IS PLANTED?

DPW employees will pick up any debris, mulch around your tree, stake if necessary, and install a water bag which we ask residents to fill twice weekly from May through September for two years. During severely hot summers, DPW may also augment this regular water bag filling. In 2 years, volunteers will come to prune your tree and will prune 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
- Winter King Hawthorn
- Sweetgum
- Rotundiloba Sweetgum
- Greenspire Linden
- Silver Linden
- Dawn Redwood
- Princeton Elm
- European Hornbeam
- American Hornbeam
- Yellowwood
- Kentucky Coffeetree
- London Planetree
- Black Gum
- Ginkgo (Autumn Gold, Maygar, Species)
- Redbud
- Other: _____

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

TREE AVAILABILITY VARIES DUE TO SEASON AND WHAT IS IN STOCK AT PLANTING TIME.