

WOULD YOU LIKE A FREE TREE?

Every year the Highland Tree Board applies for grants to plant trees. This fall we have a goal to improve the tree canopy on the front yards of private property. Members of the Board will be distributing trees at the Public Works Yard, 8001 N Kennedy Avenue, Highland, Indiana on Saturday, September 16 from 8 AM to 3 PM.

Below is Highland's allocation for Fall 2023 trees from the CommuniTree Grant Program. Funding for this program is made possible through a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant awarded to the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission by the USDA Forest Service.

Species	Common Name	Number
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Serviceberry	2
<i>Betula lenta</i>	Birch, Sweet	1
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch	3
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud	4
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Dogwood pagoda	2
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo (Black Gum)	2
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Oak, Chinquapin	2
Total awarded	Total	16

A Highland homeowner who desires a tree should submit a request with his/her name, street address, email address, phone number and species preference to:

Richard Underkofler, Secretary
Highland Tree Board
Phone (312) 550-4478
Email: runderkofler76@comcast.net

A tree planting & care workshop for homeowners requesting a tree will be held Thursday, September 14, 2023 from 9 to 11 am at offices of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368.

A routine weekly watering program is critical in helping trees to become established. The first three years following planting are critical to a tree's establishment and long-term health. Homeowners receiving trees must agree to at least a two-year watering program. The trees need to be watered weekly with 5-15 gallons per tree throughout the growing season. Drought conditions may require a third year of watering. Two to four inches of mulch needs to be properly applied at planting and re-applied each year.

Homeowners who request a tree will be given a copy of the USDA Forest Service Tree Owner's Manual and asked to sign a pledge to water and care for the tree as prescribed in the manual. We rely upon the homeowner pledges to care for the trees companion to periodic windshield surveys of planting locations by members of the Tree Board.