

Memorial Tree Program

Mattapoisett Tree Committee

A tree is recognized as a symbol of nature's strength and splendor. Planting a memorial tree is a meaningful and long-lasting way to honor a loved one's memory or to mark a special occasion while simultaneously enhancing the environment for future generations.

The Mattapoisett Tree Committee welcomes donations for this purpose. With your donation, we offer this Memorial Tree Program designed to aid in preserving your memories and enhancing Mattapoisett's public green spaces.

- The Mattapoisett Tree Committee, working with the Tree Warden, will locate a few planting sites and tree species for the donor to choose from. Tree locations will be chosen to enhance the canopy of Mattapoisett's public spaces and tree species choices will depend on availability and the arboricultural principal of planting the right tree in the right location.
- The timing of the tree planting will be determined by the Tree Committee to ensure the best tree viability (generally Spring or Fall) and Memorial Tree requests received outside of these optimal planting seasons may be held until the following appropriate season.
- Donors are responsible for the cost of the tree, nursery delivery charges, and the cost of the initial care supplies (gator, staking for 2 years, supplemental watering if needed). The Mattapoisett Tree Warden and the Town will be responsible for the planting and care of the tree. The estimated cost range is \$550-\$750 per tree.
- Placement of a memorial plaque is optional but may not be permitted in all locations. The Tree Committee maintains a permanent record of donations at Town Hall and on its website. For some, the placement of a commemorative plaque with the planting holds a special significance. If the donor would like a plaque:
 - The donor will pay for the cost of the memorial plaque fabrication, transportation and installation.
 - Plaques must be flush with the ground so that regular landscaping maintenance, including mowing, can occur.
 - The visible surface of the plaque may not be greater than 12 inches on any side or exceed 144 square inches in surface area.
 - The Tree Committee must approve the final location and method of securing the plaque prior to installation.
 - All wording on a plaque is subject to the approval of the Tree Committee.
 - Under no circumstances will any plaque be attached to the tree.

- The Memorial Tree will be planted in a public space and will be considered a Town tree. As such, no one is permitted to cut, trim, remove, decorate, or otherwise disturb the tree. No donor is allowed to mark or decorate the tree beyond the plaque. Any items left on or near the tree will be removed by the Town. All park rules and regulations must be followed during any memorial ceremony held at the tree.
- Please note, there is no guarantee for the permanence of either the tree or plaque. In the event of damage and/or loss of the tree or plaque, the original sponsor will be given first choice to fund its replacement. If the original sponsor chooses not to replace the tree and/or plaque, the Tree Committee may solicit another sponsor for planting a tree at that site.

By participating in this program, the donor agrees to donate the costs for the tree and optional plaque and abide by the terms detailed above.