



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

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City marks Northampton's 1,000th public shade tree planted

Mayor David Narkewicz will join Northampton's Tree Warden, tree commissioners, volunteers from Tree Northampton and city residents on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at 371 Prospect Street to plant the 1,000th public shade tree since the city launched an aggressive reforestation initiative in 2016.

A species of tree called *Amur maackia*, that is suitable for growth under utility wires, will be planted at this location. The 1,000th tree is the last of 50 trees planted along the length of Prospect Street as part of the city's annual "Neighborhood Planting Program".

The program is part of the city's larger plan to reforest Northampton following a comprehensive public shade tree inventory in 2016, which identified over 2,000 potential tree planting locations. Since that time, the city has planted more than 300 trees per year, focusing on "high public benefit" areas such as "heat islands" in downtown, environmental justice zones, walking routes to school and bus stops and main arteries that need traffic calming and beautification. Nearly all new public shade trees are planted by citizen volunteers recruited and organized by Tree Northampton.

To learn more about the Neighborhood Tree Planting Program and to complete an online application, please visit: <http://northamptonma.gov/1935/Neighborhood-Planting>. Applications to be considered for a fall 2020 planting are due by January 1, 2020.

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