



**APPLICATION**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality/Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Not-for-profit group\* (acting on behalf of a municipality) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated number of trees to plant \_\_\_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_\_ and/or Fall \_\_\_\_

Who will complete the tree planting \_\_\_\_\_

Who will maintain the plantings for the first year \_\_\_\_\_

Planting map enclosed \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

*\*NOTE: Not-for-profit groups must submit a supporting local resolution provided by the municipality approving the group to act on their behalf*

**Mail the completed application and required documentation to:**

National Grid  
Duane S. Dickinson  
259 Maplewood Dr  
West Rutland, VT 05777

OR

Scan and email to:  
[duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com](mailto:duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com)

## **10,000 TREES...AND GROWING!**

### **WHAT IT WAS...AND IS NOW:**

Originally developed in 1999 to assist upstate New York communities within the Niagara Mohawk service territory which sustained extensive street and urban forest tree losses in the ice and wind storms of 1998, the **10,000 TREES** program assisted communities in planting more than 11,000 trees during the three years of the program. Through proper species selection and placement, participating communities planted trees that benefit our natural environment and were able to have some of those planting costs offset through contributions from the program by Niagara Mohawk.

Building upon that success, National Grid is pleased to be able to continue to assist communities in their tree installation projects in the form of our **10,000 TREES...AND GROWING!** program. Utility compatible, low growing trees planted successfully under overhead primary and secondary electric lines that are accepted under the guidelines of the program will receive a contribution reimbursement of **\$50/tree** from National Grid. The proper selection and placement of low growing trees planted now can significantly avoid or minimize utility line conflicts in the future, reduce or eliminate line clearance tree pruning of those trees and minimize storm related tree disruptions and damages to the overhead electric distribution system.

### **WHO CAN APPLY?**

This program is open to all municipalities and county agencies responsible for tree/urban forest management ***within the National Grid upstate New York electric service territory only***. Community based, not-for-profit tree committees or similar organizations, operating for and approved by the participating municipality through a supporting resolution, may also apply.

### **HOW MUCH MONEY IS AVAILABLE?**

Participants will be reimbursed **\$50/tree** for trees that are successfully planted on municipal property in compliance with the program guidelines and **planted under overhead electric primary or secondary distribution lines, ONLY!** Please note...this is **not** a pre-planting grant. Participants must have funds available for their projects in advance.

### **HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?**

- 1: Return the enclosed registration form.
- 2: Provide the required information from the enclosed guidelines. You may submit existing plans for projects already in-progress, recognizing the limiting species and location qualifications.
- 3: Once planted, submit the list of trees installed, date planted and a map detailing their locations. A National Grid Distribution Forestry staff member will contact you at a later date to coordinate a site audit and inspection of the trees (typically, approximately 4-6 months following planting).
- 4: When the audit is complete, you will be notified by letter as to how many trees have been accepted and if (and why) any rejections. A reimbursement check will follow shortly thereafter.

### **WHAT TYPES OF TREES CAN BE PLANTED?**

The program funds only low growing trees that will not conflict with overhead electric distribution lines. A list of recommended small urban trees that has been developed in cooperation with Cornell University for planting is enclosed. To assure that trees planted under this program survive, recognized horticultural planting practices, maintenance, mulching and care should be utilized to assure proper rooting and establishment. This also requires attention and proper care in storage, handling and moving the trees prior to installation. There are no size requirements or limitations.

### **NEED ADDITIONAL HELP?**

National Grid is committed to helping you succeed in this project. If you have questions about the application, the guidelines or the program, please contact Duane Dickinson at 802-770-0197 or [duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com](mailto:duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com). If you have questions related to the recommended tree species or planting techniques, you may contact Cornell Cooperative Extension or the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation office nearest you or visit the Cornell Urban Horticulture Institute website at [www.hort.cornell.edu](http://www.hort.cornell.edu).

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10,000 TREES  
...and Growing!



## Program Guidelines

<p><b>1. Estimate Number of Trees to Plant</b></p>	<p>Identify the planting area and an estimate of the number of low growing, utility compatible trees to be planted, under overhead primary or secondary electric lines, indicating <b>on the application</b> your planting time...Spring, Fall or both.</p>
<p><b>2. Site Assessment</b></p>	<p>It is strongly <i>advised</i> that you complete a Site Assessment Checklist (SAC) to facilitate your planting process evaluating the applicable factors for each planting area before you select trees for the location (<i>see enclosed</i>).</p>
<p><b>3. Tree Selection</b></p>	<p>Using your completed SAC and the tree lists below as a guide, select trees that are suitable for the planting sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cornell University's "<b>Recommended Urban Trees: Site Assessment and Tree Selection for Stress Tolerance</b>" bulletin from Cornell Cooperative Extension Service download a copy FREE from the on-line version at <a href="http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtrees/pdfs/~recurbtrees.pdf">http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtrees/pdfs/~recurbtrees.pdf</a></li> <li>• National Grid's "<i>Recommended Urban Trees...</i>" list (<i>enclosed</i>), <i>or</i></li> <li>• NYS DEC's "<i>Recommended Trees for Communities in NY State</i>"</li> <li>• <b>Preferred plantings should not exceed 25' at maturity. Other species may be considered depending on location of planting.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Avoid Danger -Always call before you dig!</b></p>	<p>Identify overhead and/or buried utilities in the planting area. <b>ALWAYS</b> contact <b>Dig Safely New York</b> at <b>811</b> or <b>800-962-7962</b> to mark the planting sites for underground utilities at least 2 days prior to digging.</p>
<p><b>5. Planting Plan/Map</b></p>	<p>Provide a preliminary map of the planting area, noting the tree species that will be planted at each location (street maps, park maps, building plans, hand drawn sketches, etc.) <b>with your application</b>. Trees must be planted under overhead electric primary or secondary distribution lines (<b>not under street light, tele. or CATV only</b>).</p>
<p><b>6. Tree Planting Care and Maintenance</b></p>	<p>Proper planting, care, and maintenance of your trees in the first year are critical to the success of your tree program. Please provide an outline of how trees will be cared for after planting for the first year <b>with your application</b>.</p>
<p><b>7. Supporting Resolution</b></p>	<p>If the planning, planting and project coordination is to be done by a not-for-profit committee or volunteer group, a supporting resolution provided by the municipality must be provided <b>with your application</b> (<i>samples enclosed</i>).</p>
<p><b>8. Post Planting Map and Site Audit</b></p>	<p><u>Once planted</u>, please forward a final map of the planted area, including a list of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location of the planted trees by street (streets &amp; house numbers listed alphabetically/numerically, <i>please</i>) and species</li> <li>• Date of planting</li> </ul> <p>Your original Planting Plan/Map can be used as long as it reflects an accurate documentation of the locations and species.</p> <p>A National Grid Arborist will complete a site audit 4-6 months after planting to assure sufficient time to allow for tree establishment (trees planted in Spring typically will be inspected in Fall and those planted in Fall typically will be inspected the following Spring). <i>(Please keep in mind, that this is a reimbursement contribution and <b>not</b> a pre or post planting grant! All payments are made upon the successful survival and acceptance of those trees that meet the program guidelines following a site audit.</i></p>

Our goal is to support your community efforts to "plan before planting". This helps assure that trees are selected and planted to improve their chances for survival and minimize (*or eliminate*) future conflicts with underground and especially overhead electric utilities. Such foresight reduces the needs for future line clearance tree pruning or removals, reduces tree caused outages, eliminates the hazards and problems caused by past poor performing tree species (i.e. Silver Maple) and adds a greater variety and diversity of tree species in your community. *If questions, please contact Duane Dickinson at 802-770-0197 or [duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com](mailto:duane.dickinson@nationalgrid.com)*

## SAMPLE ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTIONS

A resolution in one of the appropriate forms provided below must be passed at an official meeting of the governing body of the applicant and a copy attached to this application. The resolution must be typed on the applicant's official stationery and should hold the official seal. The name of the applicant must be stated as it is recorded in the incorporation documents. Use the appropriate phrase in bold or brackets, depending on whether the applicant is a not-for-profit corporation or municipality, respectively:

### A: MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION

I, *(name)*, *[the duly elected and qualified secretary]* OR *[the duly qualified and acting clerk]* of the *(municipality)* of *(place)*, New York, do hereby certify that the following resolution was adopted at a *(regular)* *(special)* meeting of the *(governing body)* held on *(date)*, and is *[incorporated in the original minutes of said meeting]* OR *[on file and on record]*, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That *(name)*, as *(title)* of *(municipality)* is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for contributory reimbursement funds as part of the “**10,000 Trees...And Growing!**” tree planting program, and upon approval of said request, to enter into and execute a project agreement with National Grid for such financial contribution to this municipality.

*(Signature of Secretary)*  
Seal of Organization

*(Signature of Clerk)*  
Seal of Municipality

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### B: MUNICIPAL ENDORSEMENT- USE WHEN APPLICANT IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

**Resolution No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, the *(insert Not-For-Profit Name)* is applying to National Grid for the “**10,000 Trees...And Growing!**” tree planting reimbursement program to be located *(insert location)*, a site located within the territorial jurisdiction of this *(Board, Council or Legislature)*; and

**WHEREAS**, as a requirement under the rules of these programs, said not-for-profit corporation must obtain the “approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located”,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by this august body that the *(Board, Council or Legislature)* of *(municipality)* hereby does approve and endorse the application of *(Not-For-Profit group)* to apply for contributory reimbursements under the “**10,000 Trees...And Growing!**” program for a project known as *(project title)* and located within this community.

*Date of Adoption* \_\_\_\_\_

*Certification by Clerk* \_\_\_\_\_

**SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST** (NOTE: does **not** need to be submitted...for your use/reference)

1. Site Location \_\_\_\_\_

2. Site Description \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Climate**

**a. USDA Hardiness Zone**

\_\_\_ 6b \_\_\_ 5b \_\_\_ 4b \_\_\_ 3b  
\_\_\_ 6a \_\_\_ 5a \_\_\_ 4a \_\_\_ 3a

**b. Microclimate Factors**

\_\_\_ Re-reflected heat load  
\_\_\_ Frost pocket  
\_\_\_ Wind  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Soil Factors**

**a. Range of pH Levels** \_\_\_\_\_

(Note actual readings on sketch)

**b. Texture**

\_\_\_ Clayey  
\_\_\_ Loamy  
\_\_\_ Sandy

**c. Compaction Levels**

\_\_\_ Severely compacted  
\_\_\_ Moderately compacted  
\_\_\_ Somewhat compacted  
\_\_\_ Not compacted

**d. Drainage Characteristics**

\_\_\_ Presence of mottled soil  
\_\_\_ Low-lying topography  
\_\_\_ Indicator plants suggest site drainage:  
\_\_\_ Wet well-drained dry  
\_\_\_ Percolation test results (in./hr.)  
\_\_\_ Poorly drained (< 4"/hr.)  
\_\_\_ Moderately drained (4"- 8"/hr.)  
\_\_\_ Excessively drained (> 8"/hr.)

**5. Structural Factors**

**a. Limitations to above-ground space**

\_\_\_ Overhead wires (height: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Proximity to buildings/structures:  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Visual Assessment of Existing Plants**

**a. Species**

**b. Size**

**c. Growth Rate**

**d. Visual Assessment**

**c. Sunlight Levels**

\_\_\_ Full sun (6 hrs. or more)  
\_\_\_ Partial sun or filtered light  
\_\_\_ Shade

**d. Irrigation Levels**

\_\_\_ No supplemental irrigation  
\_\_\_ Automatic irrigation system  
\_\_\_ Irrigation amount and rate:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**e. Other Soil Considerations**

\_\_\_ Indications of soil layer disturbance  
\_\_\_ Evidence of recent construction  
\_\_\_ Presence of construction debris  
\_\_\_ Noxious weeds present:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Evidence of excessive salt usage  
\_\_\_ Erosion of soil evident  
\_\_\_ Evidence of soil contamination  
\_\_\_ Usage that compacts soil

**f. Specific Soil Problems**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**b. Limitations to below-ground space**

\_\_\_ Utilities marked and noted on sketch  
\_\_\_ Approximate rooting volume for site  
Length:\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_ Depth: \_\_\_

**7. Sketch of Site** (does not need to be submitted...for your use/reference)

Note north arrow; circulation patterns; pH readings; location of overhead wires, underground utilities, buildings and pavement, as well as problem drainage areas.

