

# Arbor Day Tree Planting—Fri. April 29

Unless we live in a glass house, with glass or acrylic furniture or perhaps in an ice igloo, it is impossible not to be near something that was made from a tree or from a tree's bi-product. We sit on furniture made of wood from a tree, we drive cars whose tires are made from the sap of the rubber tree, we eat oranges, lemons, nuts, bananas, maple syrup, and lots of other fruit grown on or in trees. Many of the paper products we use and write with are made from the pulp of trees. Our electric power is transported on wires attached to wooden poles made from tall straight trees. Trees clean the air, conserve topsoil, protect water supplies, slow global warming, and absorb carbon dioxide. And equally important, they provide habitats for millions of species of birds, animals, and fish that are integral to our ecosystem. We recognize the vital lifeline with our trees by celebrating their existence on Arbor Day, which is always celebrated the last Friday in April in Pennsylvania. Arbor Day is a reminder to prune, feed, maintain, protect, and preserve our trees.



At the Charles Baber Cemetery, Arbor Day has been enthusiastically celebrated for the past 17 years. On Arbor Day, 10 new trees are planted on the property and blessed at a special 2:00 PM service. Each tree is offered for sponsorship at \$400 per tree. While the tree may cost \$70 - \$120 per tree, the remainder of the money is used to cut and remove dead or diseased trees. The cutting and removal of one very large tree can be \$1800-\$2300 depending on the tree's location and its height and width. If we are fortunate to have all 10 trees sponsored for a total receipt of \$4,000, then we may be able to cut and remove 2-3 trees and to prune the dead limbs on other trees.

Our tree plantings this year will be primarily in the lower level, near the pond. Some will be the Swamp White Oak, similar to what is planted to the west of the pond now, 2 may be Japanese Maples, there may be a Pin Oak, or perhaps 1 -2 Sugar Maple trees. While we do try to add a new specie every other year, like the Kentucky Coffee Tree planted in 2014 near the entrance, we try to replace a tree that was cut down with the same specie and in the same area, such as the Japanese Maple, or the Sugar Maple that were cut down last year. Sometimes we just have to wait and see what the tree nurseries have available.

On Arbor Day, we hold a special service, open to the public and free, with representation from the Forestry Service, the Shade Tree Comm., members from Pottsville City Council, and with school students reading poems and essays about trees. Trinity Episcopal's rector blesses each memorial or thanksgiving tree. At the time of the blessing, a memorial sign is placed at the tree and later the memorial name is transferred to a wooden leaf attached to a wooden tree placed on the wall in the east gatehouse at the cemetery entrance. Anyone can sponsor a memorial tree or give a tree of thanksgiving. We are in need of sponsors for the trees. You can sponsor a tree by completing and returning the form below to the office (200 S. Second St., Pottsville, PA 17901) along with your \$400 check. Based on current economic conditions, we are flexible with our tree sponsorship and will accept \$100 down and 6 monthly payments of \$50. Call the office to discuss a payment plan. Please sponsor a tree if you can. If you cannot, come join us at **2:00 PM on Arbor Day, Friday, April 29th** and enjoy the day. It is a beautiful ceremony and is open and free to the public.



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## 2016 Arbor Day Replacement Trees - \$400 Sponsorship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Given in memory of : \_\_\_\_\_

Given in thanksgiving for : \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Plan: \_\_\_\_\_ \$400 Payment in full or \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 down and 6 monthly payments of \$50