



Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....December 17, 2020

TO: Media of Greater Rochester Area
CONTACT: Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District
RE: 2021 Conservation Tree & Shrub Program

QUESTIONS: mcswcd@monroecounty.gov or 585-753-7380 for details

Plant Native This Spring

Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District Launches 2021 Conservation Tree & Shrub Program

What better way to forget about the cold and snow than to start preparing for spring! The Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District has released their spring 2021 species list for their annual Conservation Tree & Shrub program. For 45 years, the District has hosted this successful program, with almost 16,000 native and naturalized trees and shrubs being distributed to landowners last year alone!

With 23 different species including hardwoods, bare-root conifers, shrubs, wildflowers, and variety packs, The District is doing their part in making our communities green. Don't want to miss out on getting your species – be sure to pre-order them, along with other products great for conservation projects including bat and bluebird houses, seed mixes, and more!

The District added 4 new tree and shrubs, plus several new mixes! Our new items are all showy, beautiful trees and shrubs, sure to liven up your yard and attract a variety of wildlife! This year we are offering Red Maple, Yellow Birch, Balsam Fir, and Steeplebush. All native, these species produce wildlife-attracting fruit and flowers, provide quite the fall scenery with their stunning foliage, and can be used for various home projects like furniture and holiday trees. By planting these native plants you can increase wildlife habitat, provide a windbreak (see our conifers), reduce erosion, and help create habitat for pollinators! Check out all the benefits of these and our other selections by visiting our website catalog found at: www.monroecountyswcd.org.

The Conservation Tree & Shrub Program is a pre-order program with a deadline for ordering on March 5, 2021. We have a limited availability for plant stock so in order to ensure we can meet your needs, please order early! We offer mail-in, email, and online ordering. The distribution of the plant material will occur at the Monroe County ecopark on April 22-23, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. We will also hold a first come, first serve overstock sale on April 24, 2021 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. where you can come in and purchase trees without having to preorder.

Please note that many of our tree species come as young, small rooted clumps – we do not sell full grown trees. Once planted the small seedlings should take to the soil and grow leaves once spring arrives. This year, three of the conifers we are offering are transplants, meaning they are stronger and more mature when you plant them!

Those interested in this program can find the order form and our full color catalog on the District's website: www.monroecountyswcd.org. If you have any questions or you'd like a form sent to you, contact the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District at: (585) 753-7380, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Providing Today, Protecting Tomorrow