Town of Lexington
Tree Committee

The Tree Committee of the Town of Lexington, Massachusetts, was established for the following purposes:

To promote the preservation and protection of both public shade trees and certain trees on private property; to work with the Tree Warden to regulate the removal and replacement of trees in certain circumstances; **to promote the planting and protection of trees throughout the Town**; to develop rules, regulations, tree inventory, manuals, and other data as stated in the Lexington Tree Bylaw.

Concord Avenue: Scarlet Oak in autumn

TREE CITY USA

Produced by Lexington Tree Committee
John Frey, Chairman
Designed by Karen Longeteig
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All photos by Karen Longeteig except "Elm Leaves", by Pat Breen, Oregon State University

Town of Lexington, Massachusetts
Department of Public Works
201 Bedford Street
Lexington, MA 02420

CONTACT PERSON

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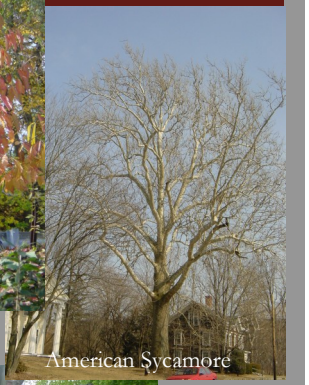
Commemorative Tree Program

To honor and commemorate ...

The Lexington Commemorative Tree Program

Sourwood



American Sycamore

Dogwood and Redbud

Celebrate a Life — Plant a Tree

One of the nicest things you could do in honor of a favorite person, or in memory of a loved one, is to plant a tree in Lexington. Offering shade and beauty to a public street or park for perhaps a hundred years, a tree is a celebration of life.

A Memorial Book will be kept in perpetuity in the Town's Cary Memorial Library and will offer space for a written page of the honoree's accomplishments, photos, joys, and memories.

"Elm Leaves": *Ulmus americana* in autumn

When should we celebrate life or honor someone with a natural memorial?

The planting of a tree can be a celebration for any occasion such as an anniversary, graduation, birth, or wedding. Very often it is in remembrance of a special person in your life (such as a family member or a teacher).

A donor's gift to The Lexington Tree Fund will cover the cost for obtaining and planting the tree, and for its maintenance costs.

Where would my tree be planted?

Your tree could be planted in one of Lexington's parks, on school or public grounds, or along a street to shade all who pass. You may select the site from a list of those available, in consultation with the Tree Warden.

How much does it cost to purchase a tree?

The charge for a tree is a one-time payment of $1500, covering life-long maintenance, registration, and a replacement guarantee. (If the tree fails, it will be replaced at no cost to you.) Depending on the species, it will be five to eight feet tall at transplanting.

Questions you should consider when choosing a memorial tree:

1. What was the person's favorite spot to visit? Could a tree mark the area?

2. What were the person's hobbies? Can a species of tree represent those activities? For instance, if the person loved bird-watching, you might choose a tree attractive to birds. Is there a particular symbolism that would be appropriate? (For example, oaks represent longevity.)

3. Would you want spring or fall colors? There are many varieties that give beautiful color effects, so don't limit your selection to just those with which you are already familiar.

4. What inscription, text, or pictures do you want to include in the Memorial Book?

What trees could I plant?

The following are among trees recommended for planting on Lexington's streets and public places (parks, schools, etc.):
Scarlet Oak, Tulip Tree, American Hornbeam, Yellowwood, Serviceberry, Red Maple, River Birch, American Elm, Redbud, Sourwood, *and many others,* both native and non-native. Please see the list in the Town's Tree Management Manual, and consult the Tree Warden.

Silverbell tree in bloom

(Halesia caroliniana)

Begin by contacting Lexington's Tree Warden for assistance in selecting your tree and its site. Your check, made out to "The Lexington Tree Fund", is tax deductible; send it to the Selectmen's Office at the address below. Your tree will be a living gift to the Town for generations to come.

Town of Lexington Massachusetts

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201 Bedford Street
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Christopher Filadoro, Tree Warden and Superintendent of Public Grounds