

**NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT
RELAUNCHES
*FREE Tree Giveaways Throughout NYC***

**NYRP WILL DISTRIBUTE 2,000 INDIVIDUAL, NATIVE SPECIES TREES
WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS THROUGHOUT ALL 5 BOROUGHS**



PHOTOS HERE

(Courtesy of New York Restoration Project)

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NEW YORK, NY – March 15, 2022 – [New York Restoration Project \(NYRP\)](#) is thrilled to revive free tree giveaways with community partners throughout New York City. Beginning **April 16, 2022 and continuing through May 2022, NYRP will distribute 2,000 individual trees.**

NYRP started the very popular free tree giveaways in 2010 as part of the [MillionTreesNYC](#) initiative, which they led in partnership with the NYC Parks Department. While MillionTreesNYC finished in 2015, the annual tree giveaway program continued until March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic put all in-person events on pause. The new tree giveaway season marks the long-anticipated return of this beloved citywide program.

Native tree species to be distributed include Serviceberry, River Birch, Hornbeam, Hackberry, Redbud, Persimmon, Eastern Red Cedar, Sweetbay Magnolia, Black Gum, Black Cherry, and Swamp White Oak.

As the climate crisis intensifies, trees play an essential role in New York City’s environmental resilience by providing shade, creating wildlife habitat, reducing temperatures, improving air quality, and mitigating storm water run-off. NYRP, with the financial support of Bloomberg Philanthropies, is committed to ensuring these benefits are equitably distributed throughout the city.

Free tree recipients **must register** in advance at www.nyrp.org/freetree starting **March 15, 2022**. New dates will be announced in the coming weeks. Confirmed dates, partners, and locations include:

Date	Borough	Neighborhood	Partner	Location
April 16, 2022	Manhattan	East Harlem	New York State of Mind (NYSoM)	Rodale Pleasant Park Community Garden ; 437 E. 114th St.
April 16, 2022	Brooklyn	Canarsie	Wyckoff House Museum	Exact location TBD
April 23, 2022	Queens	Long Island City	Smiling Hogshead Ranch	Exact location TBD
April 23, 2022	Brooklyn	Greenpoint	Greenpoint Library	Exact location TBD
April 24, 2022	Queens	Flushing	Queens Botanical Garden	Exact location TBD
April 30, 2022	Queens	Far Rockaway	Rise Rockaway	Exact location TBD
April 30, 2022	Brooklyn	Red Hook	Red Hook Farms	Exact location TBD
May 1, 2022	Bronx	Mott Haven	Bruckner Mott Haven Community Garden	Exact location TBD
May 7, 2022	Manhattan	East Harlem	Urban Garden Center	Exact location TBD
May 7, 2022	Queens	Jamaica	Discovery Community Garden	108-56 Union Hall St., Jamaica, Queens, 11433
May 8, 2022	Staten Island	Randall Manor	Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden	Exact location TBD
May 14, 2022	Bronx	Morrisania	Morning Glory Community Garden	Paradise on Earth Community Garden ; 1106 Fox St., The Bronx
May 14, 2022	Brooklyn	Flatbush	Flatbush Library	Exact location TBD
May 15, 2022	Queens	Far Rockaway	P256Q St. Johns Residence for Boys	Exact location TBD

QUOTES

“We are thrilled to revive our beloved free tree giveaways throughout New York City! Too many communities have suffered from a lack of tree canopy for generations and deserve the undeniable benefits of increased shade, reduced temperatures, and cleaner air,” said **New York Restoration Project Executive Director Lynn B. Kelly**. “An equitable distribution of trees is essential for New York City to confront the climate crisis.”

“Our trees are the lungs of our city, and we applaud NYRP for their commitment to greening with this yearly native tree giveaway to New Yorkers,” said **New York City Parks Commissioner Sue Donoghue**. “As the stewards of the city’s urban forest, we welcome the expansion of its canopy in

any way possible, and every bit helps—private property owners can make a positive impact on our urban canopy by adding a tree to their back or front yards where feasible.”

"New York Restoration Project knows that every tree planted today means a brighter, greener tomorrow for New York, and I'm so pleased their free tree giveaway has returned and is anchored in some of the city's most underplanted neighborhoods," said **Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine**. "These trees provide 2,000 opportunities to protect New Yorkers from extreme weather, absorb runoff and cool neighborhoods. They will pay environmental dividends for decades to come."

“With the rise in extreme weather, and the damage we have seen from storms in recent months, it is clear that New York City must implement creative ways to tackle climate change and make it a priority,” said **Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson**. “Last month, I joined with my fellow Borough Presidents in calling for the Million More Trees program, which will protect New Yorkers in every neighborhood against a number of environmental risks and the addition of more trees has the potential to save lives. New York Restoration Project's free tree program is a great step towards adding more trees in all five boroughs and I am thrilled that the program is relaunching.”

“We're grateful for New York Restoration Project's commitment to helping us plant more trees in New York and making that a little easier by giving families free trees to plant themselves,” said **Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso**. “It shouldn't be a privilege for New Yorkers to have clean air to breathe and a healthy landscape to enjoy. Whether it's in our neighborhood parks, or in our backyards, we should all have a greener Brooklyn.”

“I'm thrilled New York Restoration Project's free tree giveaway program is returning this spring. Trees are vital to the health of our city, and increasing our communities' share of shade means a more resilient and stronger environment for all our families to enjoy, regardless of neighborhood,” said **Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr.** “I applaud New York Restoration Project for its work to make New York City a greener place to call home, and I'm committed to getting even more trees planted in Queens in the years to come.”

"Hundreds of New Yorkers die every year from heat-related causes, primarily in neighborhoods that lack an expansive tree canopy," said **New York City Council Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee Shekar Krishnan**. "Trees don't just beautify our communities and improve our mental health, they also save lives. That's why I enthusiastically support the return of the tree giveaway initiative from New York Restoration Project, which will give away 2,000 trees, free of charge, to community partners across the city."

ABOUT NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT

New York Restoration Project (NYRP) is a non-profit organization driven by the conviction that all New Yorkers deserve beautiful, high-quality public space. Since its founding in 1995 by **Bette Midler**, NYRP has planted trees, renovated gardens, restored parks, and transformed open space for communities throughout New York City's five boroughs. As New York's only citywide nature conservancy, NYRP brings private resources to spaces that lack adequate municipal support, fortifying the City's aging infrastructure and creating a healthier environment for those who live in the most densely populated and least green neighborhoods.

Learn more about NYRP at nyrp.org
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