

NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT'S FREE Tree Giveaways Return Throughout NYC

NYRP WILL DISTRIBUTE 3,500 NATIVE SPECIES TREES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS THROUGHOUT ALL 5 BOROUGHS

QUOTES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS BELOW



****PHOTOS HERE**** (Courtesy of New York Restoration Project)

For more information, please contact: Lauren Wilson and Erica Helms lwilson@nyrp.org | ehelms@nyrp.org

NEW YORK, NY – Tuesday, March 7, 2023 – <u>New York Restoration Project</u> (NYRP) is thrilled to announce free tree giveaways with community partners throughout New York City in time for Earth Month. Beginning **April 15, 2023** and continuing through May 2023, NYRP will distribute 3,500 trees throughout all five boroughs.

NYRP started the very popular free tree giveaways in 2010 as part of the <u>MillionTreesNYC</u> initiative led in partnership with the NYC Parks Department and completed in 2015.

Native tree species to be distributed include American Persimmon, American Plum, Black Cherry, Eastern Redbud, Elderberry, Flowering Dogwood, Highbush Blueberry, Sweetbay Magnolia, Sycamore, Willow Oak, Winged Sumac, and Witchhazel among others. **See a full list at** <u>nyrp.org/freetree</u>

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 thanks Bloomberg Philanthropies for generous support of our work to steward and increase the tree canopy in New York City. Additional support for the tree giveaway program is provided by Citizens.

Free tree recipients **<u>must register</u>** in advance at <u>www.nyrp.org/freetree</u>. As of March 7, 2023, dates, partners, and locations include:

Date & Time	Borough	Neighborhood	Partner	Location
April 15, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Red Hook	<u>Red Hook Farms</u>	560 Columbia St., Brooklyn, NY 11231
April 15, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Canarsie	<u>Wyckoff House</u> <u>Museum</u> & <u>State Sen.</u> <u>Kevin S. Parker</u>	5816 Clarendon Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11203
April 16, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Queens	Jackson Heights	<u>Councilmember Shekar</u> <u>Krishnan & Jackson Heights</u> <u>Beautification Group</u>	Travers Park; 76-9 34th Ave., Queens, NY 11372
April 16, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Queens	Jamaica	<u>Discovery</u> <u>Community</u> <u>Gardens</u>	108-56 Union Hall St., Queens, NY 11433
April 22, 2023 12 PM-4 PM	Bronx	Charlotte Gardens	Bronx River Alliance	1490 Sheridan Blvd., Bronx, NY 10459
April 22, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Queens	Flushing	<u>Queens Botanical</u> <u>Garden</u> & <u>Assemblywoman</u> <u>Nily Rozic</u>	42-80 Crommelin St., Queens, NY 11355
April 23, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Staten Island	St. George	H.E.A.L.T.H. For Youths	Westervelt Family and Community Garden; 143 Westervelt Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301
April 23, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Bronx	West Farms	Drew Gardens	1070 East Tremont Ave., Bronx, NY 10460
April 29, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Queens	Far Rockaway	RISE & Councilmember Selvena Brooks-Powers	58-03 Rockaway Beach Blvd., Queens, NY 11692
April 29, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Williamsburg	I.S. 318 Project Roots Community Garden & <u>Councilmember</u> <u>Lincoln Restler</u>	110 Walton St., Brooklyn, NY 11206
April 30, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Manhattan	East Harlem	<u>Urban Garden Center</u> & <u>Manhattan Borough</u> <u>President Mark Levine</u>	1640 Park Ave., New York, NY 10035

May 6, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Bronx	Westchester Square	<u>NYPL Westchester Square</u> <u>Library</u>	2521 Glebe Ave., Bronx, NY 10461
May 6, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Bedford- Stuyvesant	<u>BPL Marcy Library</u> & <u>Councilmember Chi Ossé</u>	617 DeKalb Ave. at Nostrand Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11216
May 7, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Queens	Far Rockaway	P256Q @ St. Johns Residence for Boys	150 Beach 110th St., Queens, NY 11694
May 13, 2023 10 AM-12 PM	Staten Island	Randall Manor	<u>Snug Harbor Cultural</u> <u>Center &</u> <u>Botanical Garden</u>	1000 Richmond Terr., Staten Island, NY 10301
May 13, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Brownsville	BPL Brownsville Library	61 Glenmore Ave. at Watkins St., Brooklyn, NY 11212
May 20, 2023 2 PM-4 PM	Manhattan	East Harlem	<u>New York State of</u> <u>Mind (NYSoM)</u>	<u>Family Garden</u> ; 431 E. 114th St., New York, NY 10029
May 20, 2023	Bronx	Fordham Heights	Citizens	1 E Fordham Rd., Bronx, NY 10468
May 20, 2023	Brooklyn	Brooklyn Heights	<u>Citizens</u>	174 Montague St., Brooklyn, NY 11021
May 21, 2023	Bronx	Wakefield	<u>Bissel Gardens</u> & <u>State</u> <u>Sen. Jamaal T. Bailey</u>	4525 Barnes Ave., Bronx, NY 10466

QUOTES

"New York Restoration Project is thrilled to increase the number of free trees we're distributing throughout New York City this year," said **New York Restoration Project Executive Director Lynn Bodnar Kelly**. "This beloved program continues to spread the undeniable benefits of our urban tree canopy to the neighborhoods that need them most. We must get more trees in the ground in New York City if we are to truly confront the climate crisis."

"Trees cool our streets, scrub our air, and soak up storm waters. They also support New Yorkers' mental health in immeasurable ways," said **Shekar Krishnan, Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Parks and Recreation**. "New York Restoration Project's free tree giveaway events bring these benefits to communities across the city, including our very own Jackson Heights. I'm thrilled that they will be giving away thousands more free trees this spring."

"Experts agree that improving our tree canopy is one of the best ways we can fight climate change," said **New York City Councilmember Lincoln Restler**. "We're working hard to fill every viable street tree bed in the 33rd and make it easier for neighbors to expand tree cover by planting trees on their property! New York Restoration Project is an excellent partner in helping us make our neighborhoods greener for generations to come."

"NYRP's giveaway gets us thousands of trees closer to our Million More Trees goal. From reducing temperatures to absorbing storm run-off, our city benefits from every tree added to the urban canopy," said **Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine**. "I'm especially grateful to NYRP for prioritizing historically underplanted neighborhoods, like East Harlem, as tree distribution sites."

"I'm excited to partner with the New York Restoration Project and Queens Botanical Garden to host a free tree giveaway," said **New York State Assemblywoman Nily Rozic**. "Adding 3,500 total trees to our neighborhoods is no small feat and a great way to celebrate Earth Day!"

"I am excited to continue my annual partnership with New York Restoration Project to provide free trees to the community of Brooklyn," said **New York State Senator Kevin S. Parker**. "These trees create a better climate for the residents of NYC. They will help the environment in many ways, from air quality to mitigating rising temperatures. We will be giving away free trees to the community of Canarsie, Brooklyn on April 15. We can't wait to see you there!"

ABOUT NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT

New York Restoration Project (NYRP) is a non-profit organization driven by the conviction that all New Yorkers deserve access to high-quality public green space. Since our founding in 1995 by Bette Midler, NYRP has worked collaboratively with residents in communities across the five boroughs to renovate gardens, restore parks, plant trees, promote urban agriculture, and build partnerships that transform the city's landscape. We are committed to creating a greener, more resilient city for all.

PHOTOS HERE

(Courtesy of New York Restoration Project)

Learn more about NYRP at nyrp.org

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