

FAQ Neighborhood for Tree Champions V05

Why are we doing this?

- We love trees....(and they help improve water quality, air quality and quality of life)

Who is paying for all this?

- We received a grant from Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Lex Grow Trees Program, so the taxpayers of Lexington are paying for this.

What trees are you offering?

- Please see the list in our Program Brochure or on our web site at: <http://wolfrunwater.org/restoration/lexgrowtrees/>
- KY Native trees were selected by project arborists for survivability in urban environments, ease of maintenance, disease tolerance and size.

A property owner doesn't want a shade tree, they want some other species/size.

- That's great, but not with this program. We should direct them to other tree giveaway programs featured on the Lex Grow Trees website below and help them where possible to get this done. <https://lexgrowtrees.com/>

Where can they be planted?

- On private property where appropriate space, sunlight, and soils exist, (free of underground and overhead utilities)

I know nothing about soils, sunlight and space requirements, where can I get that information?

- Our web site has detailed information on each tree species and its requirements.
- Our consulting arborists will be providing training workshops and tree-walks in your neighborhood (on request) so you can learn more.

How do we mark where the trees go?

- Tree Champions will be provided with a 4' wooden stake with a serial number on it. That stake should be driven at least 1 foot into the ground to make it more difficult to move. The tree stake is also a preliminary soil test to be sure there is sufficient topsoil.

Can you pay to remove a stump? I want to place the new tree where an old tree was located.

- Stump removal is not funded by this grant, if the property owner first removes the stump, and can drive our locator "tree stake" at least 1 foot into the ground at the desired site, then

How many trees can we plant with this program (Total)?

- 150 trees total. This number depends on actual costs. That's a LOT of trees!

What if we run out of funding for trees, and we still have lots of people wanting them?

- We start a waiting list, and lobby LFUCG and other funders for more money to continue the program.

Can a property owner plant more than 1 tree on their property?

- Yes, if they have more than one site with appropriate soils, space and sunlight on their property. (But, don't let them get too greedy)

Can a rental property resident order a tree?

- Only if they have written permission from the property owner, or produce a lease that gives them the right to control landscaping on that parcel.

Can we plant a tree in the right of way between the sidewalk and street?

Yes, but....

- The area has to be clear of utilities such as underground gas lines, water lines, cable TV, Internet, Electrical lines etc... (Utility Locator Service (BUD 811) can mark utilities.
- The chosen species cannot be a Bur Oak, KY Coffeetree or Yellowwood tree. (PER LFUCG)
- The property owner needs to complete a street tree permit application for approval from LFUCG

Here is a link to that application form.

https://lexingtonky.formstack.com/forms/street_tree_removal_and_planting_permit_application

Can a church, commercial property or apartment complex get a tree?

- Yes, if they don't have a tree canopy requirement as part of their development plan, and they have a suitable site, and they agree to keep the tree watered and mulched, then yes, they are eligible.

My friend/relative lives outside my neighborhood, can they have a tree?

- Do they live in the Wolf Run Watershed? Then, yes with these provisions:
- If they live in a participating neighborhood (Gardenside, Cardinal Valley, Hamilton Park, Pine Meadow, Southland Park or Picadome, we ask you refer them to the Tree Champion for that neighborhood.
- If you don't know what neighborhood or watershed they live in, then contact project coordinators to sort that out.

What commitments does a Neighborhood Association need to make?

- All commitments are "aspirational" meaning there are no hard and fast requirements.
- The only real commitments are between Friends of Wolf Run Inc, the property owner and the professional installer once we order a tree for them with the grant funds.

Does the property owner have to pay an "Administrative Co-Pay " to participate?

- Some Neighborhood Associations are charging a small fee to cover their costs of communications, organizing, materials for meetings etc...
- If so, we suggest no more than 10% of the cost, or about \$50.00

If a Neighborhood Association chooses to have a co-pay, how is that handled?

- The homeowner would include a co-pay check for the amount the neighborhood has set with their participation agreement form.
- The check should be made out to the Neighborhood Association
- Payments are recorded on the Participant Agreement Form, so we will have a running total of what was collected to report to the Neighborhood Association Treasurer or Board.

Who will answer other questions I have?

- Contact Ken Cooke. Project Coordinator at 859-940-8234 Cell or email friend@wolfrunwater.org
- Contact Tyson Gregory, Trees Lexington Program Director at tyson@treeslexington.org