



Tree Contacts

Finding the right information about trees or finding out who to talk to about trees can be confusing. Keep this list handy when you have a question.

Tree questions/issues in Fairfax County:

Urban Forest Management, 703-324-1770,

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees>

Virginia Cooperative Extension, 703-324-5369,

<http://offices.ext.vt.edu/fairfax/>

Tree questions/issues on parkland:

Park Authority Forester, 703-324-8594

Regulations and Ordinances: Tree Commission, 703-324-1770

Virginia Department of Forestry:

Fairfax County Forester, 703-324-1480

Planting Trees/Reforestation Projects:

Earth Sangha, 703-764-4830, www.earthsangha.org/

Fairfax ReLeaf, 703-324-1409,

Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, 703-324-1460,

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/default.htm

Seeds:

Earth Sangha, 703-764-4830, www.earthsangha.org/

Fairfax ReLeaf, 703-324-1409,

Potomac Conservancy, 301-608-1188, www.potomac.org/

Leaves and Yard Waste:

Department of Public Works and Environmental Services/Solid Waste Management, 703-802-3322,

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/yard-waste>

Tree Pests: Urban Forest Management, Forest Pest Section,

703-324-5304, <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees>

If not you, who? Small things.

◆ **Plant a tree in a hole big enough to accommodate all the roots, but not too big.** Ideally the crown of the tree (the part where the trunk turns into roots) will end up at the same level as the soil surface. Add enough soil to the hole to keep the roots from drying out and to keep the tree in place.

If not you, who? Small things.

◆ **Tree pruning is an art and a science.** Thankfully, trees are usually quite forgiving of small errors, but over pruning or topping a tree can be fatal to the tree. Careful pruning can solve a lot of tree health issues before large problems develop. Most trees can survive without pruning, but to keep a tree in an urban yard, pruning is a better solution than chopping it down. Prune in winter for greatest success. Cuts should be made where branches meet other branches or the tree trunk, perpendicular to the ground.

If not you, who? Small things.

◆ **The tree you plant will probably outlive you.** With that in mind, pick the planting location carefully. Consider sun exposure, prevailing winds, water availability, soil drainage, common pests. Plant five feet from other trees or shrubs, six feet away from sidewalks, walls, neighbors and underground cables, and 10 feet from under overhead utility cables and power lines to ensure enough space.



Care, Educate, Inspire

Stewardship is about working together to care for the environmental and cultural resources of Fairfax County. People become stewards for different reasons. They may want to help ensure clean water and air. They may wish to share something with their children. They may be inspired by spiritual beliefs. Whatever prompts our commitment, it is easy to take an active role in stewardship. It can be a small and simple thing, or it can be much bigger. Either way, it all adds up to a Fairfax County that looks to its past with pride and to its future with confidence.

You can learn more about Fairfax County Stewardship,
the Board of Supervisor's 20-year environmental vision
and the Fairfax County Park Authority at
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/stewardship

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