

STREAM RELEAF PROGRAM

HOMEOWNER PLANTING AGREEMENT

Yes! I will help to improve water quality and restore stream ecosystems in my watershed. I agree to participate in the Stream Re-Leaf Program. As part of such participation, I accept free plants supplied by the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, Bureau of Parks and Program Services, Natural Resources Division, and hereby agree to the following terms and conditions of participation:

1. I understand that I am responsible for the care and installation of the plants. I will not cut down, sell, or otherwise intentionally destroy the plants.
2. I understand the restrictions regarding installation of plants provided under the Stream ReLeaf Program:
 - a. Plants must be planted within seventy-five (75) feet of the stream bank.
 - b. Trees may not be planted in utility rights-of-way or within forty-five (45) feet of an overhead utility line.
 - c. I understand that there is no guarantee of the survivability of the plants provided.
3. I understand that before digging, I must take the necessary measures to locate and avoid underground lines and cables by calling Miss Utility at (800) 282-8555. Note: Utilities such as cable and telephone may not be marked; extreme caution must be used to avoid damaging these lines.
4. I agree to hold Howard County and its employees and contractors harmless from any and all costs, expenses, damages or personal injuries resulting from my participation in the Stream ReLeaf Program.
5. I will follow the Planting Guidelines listed on the following page. I will call the Natural Resources Division office at (410) 313-1636 with any questions regarding the Stream ReLeaf Program or the Planting Guidelines.

I, the undersigned, certify that I have read, fully understand, and agree to be bound by the conditions for participation in the Stream ReLeaf Program. I understand that if I fail to comply with all of these conditions, I am obligated to reimburse Howard County, Maryland for the cost of the plants supplied.

Signature

Date

Name

Address

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Planting Guidelines

1. Locate a clear, open site for the tree with access to sunlight and with a generous rooting area and good drainage.
2. Dig a hole two times larger than the root system being planted. Plant tree at same level as it grew in the nursery.
3. Neatly cut away any broken or damaged roots and branches with sharp pruning tools.
4. In the hole, make a mound of soil and spread the tree's roots out and down over it.
5. Place soil from the hole around the tree roots. Water tree when the hole is half full. Add soil and topsoil if needed to fill the hole and completely cover the roots. Pat the soil gently, it is important not to eliminate vital air spaces by stamping it down. Water tree again.
6. Spread mulch over the planting area to a depth of two to three inches, but do not place mulch against the tree.
7. Do not stake unless the tree has a large crown, or if the planting is on a site where wind or people may push the tree over. Stake the tree for a maximum of one year.
8. Strongly recommended: If you live in an area heavily populated by deer, please cage your plants to the best of your abilities to maximize the results of your planting efforts. A cage can consist of placing 4-5' tall stakes around the tree and then wrapping chicken or other types of wire around the stakes to prevent deer browse and buck rubs.
9. Water tree as needed to ensure the tree has plenty of water throughout the year.
10. At one year anniversary of planting, apply fertilizer to the tree.