

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign Provides
Free Tree Seedlings to Residents in Lawrence Township**

Lawrence Township NJ (April 21, 2023) - Free tree seedlings will be available to area residents beginning April 24, 2023, as part of the New Jersey Forest Service's New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign.

Residents will be able to pick up tree seedlings at the Lawrence Township Municipal Building during normal business hours. This year the Township has Black Walnut, Bur Oak and Chestnut Oak seedlings. Seedlings are available on a first come, first served basis and come with instructions on how to store, care for, and plant the trees. The guides help residents choose the right place on a property to plant a tree while keeping in mind the tree's full-grown size in the future. Residents should plant the seedlings within two days after pick-up in order to prevent the roots from drying out.

The goal of the Tree Recovery Campaign to distribute over 700,000 tree seedlings to New Jersey residents over the course of eight years was met in 2020. With natural disasters like Hurricane Sandy, and the damage caused by several new invasive insects to New Jersey, our state needs more new tree seedlings than ever before. Therefore, the campaign is moving into its 9th year. The program is a joint effort between Lawrence Township, New Jersey Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program, New Jersey Forest Service Nursery, New Jersey Soil Conservation Districts, Arbor Day Foundation, FedEx, Texpo Energy and Tomorrow Energy.

When properly planted and maintained, trees can be assets to a community. They improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood or business district, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants, and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

For a list of all distribution locations across the state, visit www.forestry.nj.gov or www.facebook.com/newjerseyforests.

If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Kraemer at (609) 844-7087 or bkraemer@lawrencetwp.com.