



# What's Developing in Frederick

*Celebrating Arbor Day | May 2019*

Happy 2019 Arbor Day! This year, the Town of Frederick will be celebrating on Thursday, April 25 by visiting the 3rd grade classes of each elementary school in Town and holding our first Tree Sale! As a Tree City USA community, we are committed to celebrating the importance of a tree canopy and improving the care of trees throughout the community. One requirement to achieving Tree City USA status is celebrating Arbor Day.

Arbor Day was first celebrated in Nebraska in 1872 as a tree-planting holiday with prizes offered to counties and individuals for planting properly the largest number of trees on that day. Even then, trees were acknowledged as valuable in providing windbreaks, fuel and building materials, shade from the sun, and keeping soil in place. Through the years, other states have passed legislation to observe Arbor Day which acknowledges a prime time to plant trees for their area. The official Colorado Arbor Day is the third Friday in April.

As mentioned, one of the goals of Arbor Day is helping trees to be properly planted. It is so much more than merely digging a hole! The Arbor Day Foundation recommends three steps to follow.

First, you need to select a good planting site. This includes determining if the site is your property, considering soil conditions and water availability, overhead utilities, space available for roots to grow, and space overhead for the tree canopy.

Next, be sure to consider what the tree needs and the planting site can provide. There are six "tree needs" to compare with the site's conditions.

1. Temperature - Trees have a limit to the cold they can endure. Check the hardiness zone before choosing a tree.

2. Moisture - Each species can tolerate wet or dry conditions to a different degree.

3. Light - "Shade tolerance" is the term foresters use to rate the light requirements of each species.

4. Pests - Every locality has problems with a particular insect or disease. Some trees are more susceptible to a certain disease than others.

5. Soil - Soil depth, structure, pH and moisture can make the difference between success and failure with a tree. Each species has its preferences.

6. Air pollutants - Chemicals in the air vary with localities; some trees are more tolerant of air pollution than others.

Other considerations that vary based on your preferences impact the tree you choose. Is the tree being planted to save energy and provide shade? Is it being planted to beautify the grounds? Is providing wildlife habitat important? Will the tree provide a windbreak? Determining these reasons may help identify the ideal tree for you.

Another factor to consider is how the tree will grow. Trees need room for both their roots to grow as well as their branches (both up and out). Do you have a preference on the final shape of the tree? Will it grow to shade a window (intentionally or not)?

Finally, comes planting your tree. How you plant it will depend on the root configuration of your tree. Is it bare root, in a container, or balled and burlapped? The Arbor Day Foundation has instructions for planting each of these types on their website.

We hope you use this information to have a successful planting experience. Happy Arbor Day!

