



Learning with Trees™

Learning with Trees is a free program for Minnesota elementary and middle schools that includes environmental education and a school-wide planting day on your campus. Schools involved in this program are expected to have a long-term commitment to the success of the project.

Getting Started

Scan to apply



[TreeTrust.org](https://www.TreeTrust.org)

What We Provide

- Trees, shrubs, benches, bird feeders and nest boxes.
- Educational tree exhibit and planting design.
- Mulch, tree protection and watering bags.

Tree Trust will contact eligible schools to arrange a meeting and a site walk-through to determine if there is planting space for at least one tree to be planted per classroom.

The Planning Process

A key part of the Learning with Trees Program is a dedicated Green Team comprised of parents, teachers, students, school staff, and community members who are invested in helping with the project. The Green Team works closely with Tree Trust to provide feedback on landscape design, tree selection, event planning and the creation of a watering plan.





Learning with Trees™

Our Town Trees

Our Town Trees is a five-station traveling exhibit, developed with the Science Museum of Minnesota and US Forest Service that teaches about the benefits of trees.

Stations are designed for grades K-5 and cover topics including:

- How trees clean our water.
- How trees keep us cool.
- What products come from trees.
- How trees provide us oxygen.
- Trees are homes for wildlife.

This exhibit is designed to fit within current curriculum requirements for grades K-5. Tree Trust supplies hands-on activities with an informal lesson plan.

Planting Day



The school-wide planting day is the culmination of the Learning with Trees program.

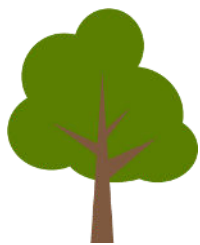
Classes come out in shifts (3-6 at a time) and every student plants with their class. Parent volunteers help supervise the classes (1-2 parents/classroom).

After planting is completed, a school-wide celebration is encouraged to recognize the students' accomplishments.





	Select lead Green Team coordinator for the school.
	Schedule monthly Green Team meetings from February-April.
	The Green Team provides feedback to Tree Trust planting plan surveys.
	The Green Team reviews landscape design and make changes to plan.
	The Green Team ensures at least one tree/shrub is planted per class.
	The Green Team gets school district approval of planting plan.
	The Green Team confirms final planting plan with Tree Trust.
	The Green Team decides planting day dates (May-early June OR Sept-Oct, Tues-Fri).
	The Green Team decides date for Our Town Trees exhibit week (prior to planting day).
	The Green Team creates a watering plan, 15 gallons weekly during the growing season.
	The Green Team recruits' volunteers to assist with Our Town Trees exhibit.
	The Green Team recruits' volunteers to assist with planting day.



**For Our Town Trees Exhibit-
The School Provides:**

- Three rectangular tables at least 2'x3'.
- Wall space for a 3'x6' paper tree.
- Water access to refill small bottles.
- Wall outlet and pencils.

**For Planting Day-
The School Provides:**

- **Lunches for the 8-10 Tree Trust volunteers.**

Prior to planting day, a Tree Trust staff member will mark planting locations with a white flag, and paint and submit a utility locate request. Any private utilities must be marked by the school.