

Thank you for choosing to participate in our “Planting the Future” program! If you’re considering planting a tree to manage summer heat on your property and in our community, please follow these instructions.

1. Evaluate your property for the optimal location to plant your tree. Here are some considerations to take into account:
 - a. Pick a spot without any hindrance/obstruction above (e.g. power lines) that the tree may bump into as it grows.
 - b. Make sure there is a large enough radius of space for the full-grown width of the tree and its branches, i.e. at least 8 feet from any walls, or at least 6 feet from a building’s corner.
 - c. Is the area sunny or shady? Is the soil wet or dry?
 - d. Consider planting the tree near the road or a sidewalk to provide public shade for your neighborhood as well as your home.
2. Once you have selected a spot to plant, use this online tool to show us where you would like your tree:
<https://maps.natickma.org/portal/apps/GeoForm/index.html?appid=dc412cf449d04585a0013f190fe58d89>
 - a. Under section 1, enter your personal information.
 - b. Then, under section 2, you have two options to locate your property: either using the Search tab to enter your address, or the Lat/Lon tab to enter your property’s latitude and longitude coordinates.
 - c. Once the map has zoomed in to show your property, click to drop a blue tag wherever you’ve decided to plant your tree. Drag the blue tag to edit your choice.
 - d. Click “Submit Entry”!
3. A Natick representative will assess your planting location using [“right tree, right place” criteria](#), as well as [heat mapping data](#) to know which areas are in the most need of shade.

Selected property owners will be contacted with a voucher for a free native tree from a local nursery, and will be assisted with its transportation and planting. Even in the event you are not selected, you can still use the instructions above to plant a tree and help provide shade for your community!