

## NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT'S *FREE Tree Giveaways Return Throughout NYC*

**NYRP CELEBRATES DISTRIBUTING OVER 75,000 TREES  
THROUGHOUT ALL 5 BOROUGHES SINCE 2008**

**\*QUOTES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS BELOW\***



**\*\*PHOTOS HERE\*\***

**(Courtesy of New York Restoration Project)**

**For more information, please contact:**

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**NEW YORK, NY – Monday, March 4, 2024 – [New York Restoration Project](#) (NYRP) is thrilled to announce free tree giveaways with community partners throughout New York City in time for Earth Month. Beginning April 13, 2024 and continuing through May 12, 2024, **NYRP will distribute 3,500 trees throughout all five boroughs.****

NYRP started its very popular free tree giveaways in 2008 as part of the [MillionTreesNYC](#) initiative led in partnership with the NYC Parks Department and completed in 2015. The tree giveaway program has continued, and this season, NYRP will surpass **over 75,000 trees given away** through this program since it began.

The **30 different native tree species** to be distributed include American Persimmon, American Plum, Beach Plum, Black Cherry, Eastern Redbud, Elderberry, Fragrant Sumac, Pagoda Dogwood, Red Maple, Sweetbay Magnolia, and Witchhazel among others. **See a full list at [nyrp.org/freetree](https://nyrp.org/freetree)**

As the climate crisis intensifies, trees play an essential role in New York City’s environmental resilience by providing shade, creating wildlife habitat, reducing temperatures, improving air quality, and mitigating storm water run-off. NYRP thanks Bloomberg Philanthropies for generous support of our work to steward and increase the tree canopy in New York City.

Additional support for the tree giveaway program is provided by the Citizens Philanthropic Foundation, National Grid, and the New York Islanders.

Free tree recipients **must register** in advance at [www.nyrp.org/freetree](http://www.nyrp.org/freetree). As of March 4, 2024, dates, partners, and locations include:

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Borough</b>	<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>Location</b>
April 13, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Queens	Jackson Heights	<a href="#">Jackson Heights Beautification Group &amp; Council Member Shekar Krishnan</a>	Travers Park (76-9 34th Ave., Queens, NY 11372)
April 13, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Bronx	Morrisania	<a href="#">New York Public Library—Morissania</a>	610 E 169th St., Bronx, NY 10456
April 14, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Bronx	Wakefield	<a href="#">Bissel Gardens &amp; State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey</a>	4525 Barnes Ave., Bronx, NY 10466
April 14, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Staten Island	Randall Manor	<a href="#">Snug Harbor Cultural Center &amp; Botanical Garden</a>	1000 Richmond Terr., Staten Island, NY 10301
April 20, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Canarsie	<a href="#">Wyckoff House Museum &amp; Council Member Farah Louis</a>	5816 Clarendon Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11203
April 20, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Bronx	Foxhurst	<a href="#">Bronx River Alliance</a>	1490 Sheridan Blvd., Bronx, NY 10459
April 21, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Bronx	Kingsbridge	<a href="#">Stewards of Ewen Park, Tibbetts Brook Beautification Association, &amp; Kingsbridge Heights Community Center</a>	295 W 231st St., Bronx, NY 10463
April 21, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Queens	Jamaica	<a href="#">Discovery Community Gardens &amp; New York City Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams</a>	108-56 Union Hall Street, Jamaica, NY 11433
April 27, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Queens	Far Rockaway	<a href="#">RISE Rockaway, Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers, the New York Islanders, and National Grid</a>	58-03 Rockaway Beach Blvd., Queens, NY 11692
April 27, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Queens	Flushing	<a href="#">Queens Botanical Garden &amp; Assemblywoman Nily Rozic</a>	42-80 Crommelin St., Flushing, NY 11355
April 28, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Greenwood	<a href="#">The Green-Wood Cemetery</a>	500 25th St., Brooklyn, NY 11232

April 28, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Bronx	Fordham	<a href="#">Bronx Land Trust (Fordham Bedford Lot-Busters)</a>	2597 Bainbridge Ave., Bronx, NY 10458
May 4, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Red Hook	<a href="#">Red Hook Farms</a>	560 Columbia St., Brooklyn, NY 11231
May 4, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Brownsville	<a href="#">Brooklyn Public Library— Brownsville</a>	61 Glenmore Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11212
May 5, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Staten Island	St. George	<a href="#">H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths &amp; Westervelt Family and Community Garden</a>	143 Westervelt Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301
May 5, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Brooklyn	Greenpoint	<a href="#">Java Street Community Garden &amp; Council Member Lincoln Restler</a>	59 Java St., Brooklyn, NY 11222
May 11, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Bedford- Stuyvesant	<a href="#">Brooklyn Public Library— Marcy &amp; Council Member Chi Ossé</a>	617 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11216
May 11, 2024 10 AM-1 PM	Bronx	Fordham	<a href="#">Citizens – Fordham Road Branch</a>	One East Fordham Rd., Bronx, NY 10468
May 11, 2024 10 AM-1 PM	Brooklyn	Sheepshead Bay	<a href="#">Citizens – Avenue U Branch</a>	1702 Ave. U, Brooklyn, NY 11229
May 11, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Bronx	Westchester Square	<a href="#">New York Public Library—Westchester Square</a>	2521 Glebe Ave., Bronx, NY 10461
May 12, 2024 10 AM-12 PM	Brooklyn	Brownsville	<a href="#">HELP USA</a>	330 Hinsdale St., Brooklyn, NY 11207
May 12, 2024 2 PM-4 PM	Manhattan	Harlem	<a href="#">Brotherhood Sister Sol, West Harlem Art Fund &amp; Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine</a>	St. Nicholas Park (135th Street and St. Nicholas Ave.)

## **QUOTES**

“New York Restoration Project is thrilled to reach our 75,000th free tree milestone this season,” said **New York Restoration Project Executive Director Lynn Bodnar Kelly**. “This beloved program continues to spread the undeniable benefits of our urban tree canopy to the neighborhoods that need them most. Our city must get more trees in the ground if we want to truly increase New York’s environmental resilience.”

“NYC Parks is thrilled to once again partner with the New York Restoration Project for their annual free tree giveaway, and mark the achievement of distributing 75,000 trees across our city since the program began,” said **NYC Parks Commissioner Sue Donoghue**. “Distributing trees across all five boroughs helps the city move closer to our goal of achieving 30% canopy coverage. Trees not only enhance the beauty of our neighborhoods but also serve as vital allies in our fight against climate change and efforts to enhance air quality. We deeply appreciate the unwavering support of our community partners and volunteers, who contribute to making New York City a greener and healthier place for everyone.”

“NYRP’s giveaway gets us thousands of trees closer to our Million More Trees goal. From reducing temperatures to absorbing storm run-off, our city benefits from every tree added to the urban canopy,” said **Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine**. “I’m especially grateful to NYRP for prioritizing historically underplanted neighborhoods, like Harlem, as tree distribution sites.”

"Investing in our urban tree canopy is critical to combatting the climate crisis and creating a more resilient city," said **New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams**. "The New York Restoration Project's free tree giveaways empower every neighborhood to sow the seeds of a greener environment for our communities. It is a significant achievement that after this season, New York City will have gained more than 75,000 trees since the program's start. I thank New York Restoration Program for their leadership in reinvigorating our city's landscape and improving the well-being of all New Yorkers."

"Hundreds of New Yorkers die every year from heat-related causes, primarily in neighborhoods that lack an expansive tree canopy," said **Council Member Shekar Krishnan**. "Trees don't just beautify our communities and improve our mental health, they also save lives. That's why I enthusiastically support the return of the Tree Giveaway initiative from New York Restoration Project, which will give away 3,500 trees, free of charge, to community partners across the city."

"Experts agree that improving our tree canopy is one of the best ways we can fight climate change," said **Council Member Lincoln Restler**. "In District 33, we're working hard to fill every viable street tree bed and engaging our neighbors to plant trees on their own properties and take charge of caring for trees on their block. I'm extremely grateful to New York Restoration Project for being a terrific partner in helping us make our neighborhoods greener for generations to come."

"Trees not only enhance the beauty of our neighborhoods but plant the seeds for a greener, more resilient future for generations to come," said **State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey**. "I'm grateful to partner with New York Restoration Project and local partners like Bissel Garden to expand the free tree program in The Bronx and throughout our city, particularly in areas that have historically lacked access to green spaces. These initiatives will contribute to building healthier and more sustainable communities. I want to thank NYRP for their tireless efforts in stewarding and expanding our urban forest and providing opportunities for Bronxites to take ownership in our collective work to combat the climate crisis."

#### **ABOUT NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT**

New York Restoration Project (NYRP) is a non-profit organization driven by the conviction that all New Yorkers deserve access to high-quality public green space. Since our founding in 1995 by Bette Midler, NYRP has worked collaboratively with residents in communities across the five boroughs to renovate gardens, restore parks, plant trees, promote urban agriculture, and build partnerships that transform the city's landscape. We are committed to creating a greener, more resilient city for all.

**\*\*PHOTOS HERE\*\***

**(Courtesy of New York Restoration Project)**

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