Tree of Life Program

The Tree of Life program gives individuals or groups the opportunity to remember a special person or commemorate a special event by having a living memorial planted in one of the park district's many parks.

A tree is the perfect way to honor a family member or friend and is something that one can take great pride in, knowing that the tree will continue to enhance your community and provide pleasure to everyone.

As a member in our Tree of Life program, you will receive your own gold leaf with an inscription of your choice placed on the wall at the Administrative and Leisure Center or Prairie Lakes Community Center.

Once a new tree is planted, it is guaranteed for 10 years from the date of planting. If during this time your tree experiences problems that detract from the natural beauty of the tree, or if it does not survive, the Park District will replace it for no cost.

Where can I plant my tree?

Your tree may be planted in one of 41 Des Plaines Park District parks. Some parks may be overcrowded at this time, or your particular tree may not be suitable for a park site. The Park District staff can guide you on selecting an appropriate park and tree.

***Note: Central Park, Hoffman Parkway, Prairie Lakes Park and Lake Park are** no longer available for new tree plantings, adoptions or Memorial Benches.

***All pricing subject to change**

When are the trees planted?

Tree orders are due by September 1 each year. Trees are then planted in the fall after all orders have been placed.

How much does the program cost?

The cost is $575 which includes the purchase of the tree, the planting, the gold leaf inscription and an 8 x 10-inch bronze plaque for installation at the base of the tree. The plaque will include an inscription of your choice and is a wonderful way to let everyone know for whom the tree was planted.

Can I adopt a tree?

Yes. The cost is $300 which includes the adoption of the tree, the gold leaf inscription and an 8 inch by 10 inch bronze plaque for installation at the base of the tree. Adopting a tree helps offset the costs incurred with the planting of the tree. Adopted trees are not guaranteed.

What about the Memorial Bench Program?

In addition to the Tree of Life Program, the Park District offers memorial benches for a cost of $650 which includes the purchase, shipping, and installation of the bench along with an engraved plate, inscription of your choice, inset on the back of the bench.

Can I adopt a bench?

Adopting an existing bench if available, is also an option for the cost of $275 which includes the purchase and an engraved plate, with inscription of your choice, inset on the back of the bench. The Park District staff can guide you on selecting an appropriate park and location for your bench.

Tree Of Life Plantings

Maples

"October Glory"

"Northwood"

"Autumn Blaze"

"Norway"

"Sugar"

Other Varieties

Catalpa

Eastern Redbud

Honey Locust

Linden

Oak

Horse Chestnut

Sycamore

For more specific information on a particular tree, please contact the Des Plaines Park District by emailing jbohannon@dpparks.org