



Dane County Tree Board Arbor Day Celebration Application

The Dane County Tree Board is seeking an elementary school to partner with for our annual free Day event. Each spring, usually near the last Friday in April, the Dane County Tree Board celebrates Arbor Day with a tree planting program at an elementary school in Dane County. The goal of the program is to teach the importance of environmental stewardship by providing (primarily) students in fourth and fifth grade with interactive lessons about tree biology, identification, and uses of trees while providing an opportunity to plant trees at their school. The program also emphasizes the benefits and services trees provide to the community: enhancing Wisconsin's natural beauty, creating wildlife habitat, providing shade that helps to regulate temperature, helping to absorb storm water, and improving air quality. The Dane County Tree Board considers equity concerns, and access to diverse learning communities in physical geography and in resource distribution as a priority in the school selection process.

The Tree Board has shared celebrations with the following schools:

Mount Horeb Primary Center (at Stewart Park), Madison (Crestwood Elementary, Leopold Elementary, Thoreau Elementary), Oregon (Rome Corners Intermediate School), Stoughton (Sandhill Elementary School), Waunakee (Arboretum Elementary), Cross Plains (Park Elementary), Fitchburg (Stoner Prairie Elementary), DeForest (DeForest Middle School) and Verona (New Century School, Verona Area International School).

To apply to participate in the Arbor Day Celebration with the Dane County Tree Board:

1. Designate one contact person from the school
2. Submit one application per school
3. Answer the questions below
4. Submit the completed application between September 1 and February 1.

Submit your application to the Dane County Tree Board via e-mail
(johnson.lisa@countyofdane.com)

or regular mail:

**Dane County Tree Board c/o
Dane County UW-Extension
5201 Fen Oak Drive
Ste. 138
Madison WI 53718**

Celebration Details

Our typical Arbor Day celebration includes several activities. Students in small groups will participate in activities focusing on tree identification, uses of trees, tree roots and mulching, determining a tree's age, planting a tree, learning about arboriculture and careers as an arborist. There may also be other topical lessons based on current happenings in forestry (such as information on emerald ash borer). Most of the program can be moved indoors in case of inclement weather and can be adjusted to meet your specific requirements.

Application information:

School:

Address:

Name of Applicant:

Phone:

Email:

Name of Arbor Day Coordinator:

Phone:

Email:

Preferred date for your Arbor Day celebration: (usually the last week of April or first week of May)

Please answer the following:

1. Has the Dane County Tree Board celebrated Arbor Day with your school district in the past?
If yes, provide the year:
2. Would this be your school's first formal Arbor Day celebration? If not, please briefly describe the activities.
3. Does your school grounds have a need for additional trees on the property and adequate space (above and below ground—considering overhead wires, underground utilities)?
4. Is there access to a nearby water source for use while planting trees?
5. What grade level(s) would participate and how many students would participate in the event?
6. Will you have adequate staff and/or volunteers to help supervise and move children between learning stations (approximately 1 adult:10-15 children)?
7. How will you incorporate this event into your curriculum?
8. Do you have an indoor facility (gymnasium or classrooms) to host the program indoors in case of inclement weather?

Comments and Questions:

Links to suggested lesson plans:

LEAF

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/leaf/Pages/Curriculum.aspx>

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/leaf/Pages/forestry-ed-kits.aspx>

Arbor Day Foundation

<https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/educational-resources.cfm>