

## Forestry Board Letter to Scottsville Residents

Dear Scottsville Resident,

Join us in welcoming the newest tree to Scottsville!

A tree has been planted (or will be soon!) in the right of way in front of your home. It will grow and thrive with just a bit of care and attention. The tree is purchased and planted by the Village of Scottsville. Stakes and mulch protect the tree in its early days to ensure a healthy start.

### **Who cares for the trees?**

We all do!

### **Benefits**

Trees planted along Village right of ways and parks provide many benefits. Trees enhance our walkable neighborhoods, provide shade for humans and a habitat for wildlife. They enhance the visual beauty, decrease traffic noise, reduce erosion and pollution in our waterways, give off oxygen and enhance air quality.

### **Water**

A water bag may be added after planting by the DPW to provide a steady source of water during hot and dry weather. You can help by keeping an eye on the tree and provide a slow steady trickle of water from a house hose during dry weather.

### **Mulch**

A initial layer of mulch is applied at the base of the tree when planted. It helps to maintain moisture in the ground and protects the trunk from nicks from lawn mowers. You can help by adding mulch seasonally as it naturally composts. Be sure to avoid heaping mulch in a 'volcano' formation at the base of the tree trunk which increases the risk of insect infestation and rot. Mulch should be spread low around the tree and an inch immediately around the trunk should be clear.

### **Mow and Weed**

Mulch around the base of the tree will reduce much of the damage that lawn mowers inflict. You can support the tree's health and longevity by avoiding contact with the tree trunk when mowing or weeding. Each nick or cut damages the tree bark and limits its ability to take in nutrients and reach its full potential.

### **Prune**

Please do not attempt to prune the tree. It needs a few years to become established. An arborist will perform pruning according to a maintenance schedule.

### **How to be a Tree Advocate**

Watch over and care for the tree in front of your property. Join us for Earth Day and Arbor Day activities.

### **Scottsville, NY – Tree City, USA**

Scottsville is designated as a Tree City, USA of the National Arbor Day Foundation as of 2015 and together, we work as a community for the common goal of a vibrant, healthy canopy along our streets and in our parks. The Village of Scottsville is committed to a livable and welcoming community that supports a healthy environment for its residents. This effort includes improving and maintaining the Village tree streetscape in partnership with residents.

### **About the Scottsville Village Forestry Board**

The advisory board is comprised of Scottsville resident volunteers. The board plans and implements the annual Arbor Day tree plantings, seeks grants to purchase trees, and invites all village stakeholders to join in this effort. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Scottsville Village Office. All are welcome.

### **Learn more on the Village of Scottsville website**

<https://www.scottsvilleny.org>

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