








## Fourth Grade Arbor Day Free Tree Program

The Department of Natural Resources offers a **free tree seedling to all Wisconsin fourth grade students** to commemorate Arbor Day. This program teaches the importance of environmental stewardship by providing young scholars with an opportunity to plant a tree while learning about ways to reduce their carbon footprint. Tree planting enhances Wisconsin's natural beauty, creates wildlife habitat, provides shade windbreaks and improves air quality.

Wisconsin state statutes allows for one free tree seedling for each 4<sup>th</sup> grade student. To apply for your classroom's **free Arbor Day seedling**:





1. Designate one contact person from the school.
2. Submit **one consolidated application** per school using the Fourth Grade Arbor Day Free Tree Application.
3. If the application includes multiple schools, list each school individually and indicate the number of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at each school.
4. Return the completed application by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**.

To learn more about successful tree planting or ways to celebrate Arbor Day, visit the following websites:

-  EEK! (Environmental Education for Kids) at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/>
-  "A Recipe for Arbor Day" at <http://dnr.wi.gov/eeek/teacher/arborday.htm>
-  Division of Forestry, Reforestation Program at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/treeplanting/>
-  Division of Forestry, Urban Forestry Program at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/UrbanForests/>
-  Arbor Day Foundation <http://www.arborday.org/>

The Department of Natural Resources takes pride in the quality of native stock it offers to the public and to our youth. Join us in celebrating **Arbor Day** (annually the last Friday in April) or **Earth Day** (annually April 22<sup>nd</sup>) and place your free seedling order today. If you have questions about this program, please contact Griffith State Nursery at 715-424-3700.

Here are a few simple tips for tree care and planting!

-  **Pick up your trees promptly.** If you normally pick up your trees at a site designated by the local DNR forester, please assign one person to pick up the trees for each school or district on the appropriate date and time.
-  **Keep your trees cool.** Seedlings are a perishable product and should be refrigerated until planting time (34° - 36° is ideal). Do not store your trees in the sun, in a vehicle trunk, a heated classroom, or other warm place before distributing them to your students.
-  **Keep your trees moist.** The seedlings are moistened and sealed in a lined bag or box at the nursery. Once you distribute the seedlings to your students they will need a way to keep them moist and cool until planting time.
-  **Plant your seedlings correctly.** Plant the seedlings at approximately the same depth as they grew in the nursery. Seedling roots should hang freely in the planting hole and not be crooked or twisted. Pack the soil firmly after planting. A few planting instruction will help your students achieve *tree-mendous* success!



# Fourth Grade Arbor Day Free Tree Application

*Please Print*

*If you order for more than one school, please list the name of each school and how many trees are requested per school.*

School Name:

Contact Person's Name:

Contact Person's Email:

School Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

School Telephone Number (include area code):

Home Telephone Number (include area code):

County where trees will be planted:

CESA District:

Number of fourth grade students receiving free tree seedlings:

*(Office Use – enter as free tree order):*

## Instructions

1. Please print application.
2. Limit one application per school or school district.
3. Provide school or school district name and address.
4. Provide name of contact person at school, or school district, responsible for coordinating 4<sup>th</sup> grade Arbor Day Free Tree Program for all 4th grade classes in the school or school district.
5. Provide a telephone number of the school or school district and home telephone number of the contact person.
6. Indicate in which county the trees will be planted.
7. Indicate the CESA District and school district where the school is located.
8. Indicate the number of fourth grade students in the school district or the school district receiving a free seedling.

9. Return the application to:

**Griffith State Nursery**  
**473 Griffith Avenue**  
**Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494**

or

Fax application to:

**Griffith State Nursery**  
**715-421-7830**

or

Order online at:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov>, keyword "tree planting"

**Application Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup>**