

# TREES FOR TRIBS



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

## A Program of the Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery

### Replanting the Streambanks of New York State

The Trees for Tribs program works to restore streamside plant communities on public and private lands. By supporting plantings along tributaries ("tribs"), small streams that feed larger rivers and lakes, the program helps create healthier, more climate-resilient communities.



### Why Plant Trees and Shrubs Next to Streams?

- **Water quality** – Planting along streams slows runoff, improving the health of the stream.
- **Flood protection** – Trees and shrubs along streams can slow floodwaters, reducing the threats to property and public safety.
- **Erosion control** – Deep root systems hold soil in place, preventing streambanks from wearing away and soil from entering the water, where it can smother and kill fish eggs.
- **Wildlife habitat** – Trees and shrubs provide homes and food for a variety of animals. Shaded streams keep water cool for fish such as trout, and fallen leaves provide food for aquatic insects that are, in turn, eaten by fish.



### How You Can Get Involved

If you own or manage property with at least 50 feet of land along a stream or waterbody, you may be eligible to participate in the Buffer in a Bag initiative.

Our partners (listed below) may be able to offer additional assistance or opportunities to participate if you are located within their local watershed.



### Buffer in a Bag

Through the Buffer in a Bag initiative, NYSDEC's Trees for Tribs Program and the Saratoga Tree Nursery provide landowners with a free bag of bare-root trees and shrubs to enhance the streamside area on their properties. Each Buffer in a Bag kit contains a variety of native trees and shrubs chosen specifically for New York State's streambanks. Learn more about Buffer in a Bag here (<https://on.ny.gov/32wflxz>).

### Trees for Tribs Partners

The following organizations provide additional assistance and facilitate restoration within their local watersheds.

- Hudson River Estuary Program – [www.dec.ny.gov/lands/43668.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/43668.html)
- Upper Susquehanna Coalition – <http://www.uppersusquehanna.org/usc/usc-teams/buffer-team/>
- Watershed Agricultural Council (Croton Watershed) – [www.nycwatershed.org/forestry/implementation/trees-for-tribs/](http://www.nycwatershed.org/forestry/implementation/trees-for-tribs/)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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For more information, or to sign up for email updates from NYSDEC, visit our website:

[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)