

For Immediate Release  
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## **The New York Botanical Garden Plants 500 Trees as Part of MillionTreesNYC Month**

### **Tree Plantings Scheduled for April 12 and April 25, 2008**

April is “MillionTreesNYC” Month, and The New York Botanical Garden is scheduled to plant a total of 500 trees on Saturday, April 12, (New York Cares “Hand on New York” Day) and on Arbor Day, Friday, April 25, 2008. These are in addition to the normally scheduled spring plantings at the Botanical Garden. The trees will be planted in the northern portion of the Botanical Garden’s Forest, along both the Main Trail and the Oak Trail, as part of New York City’s Parks & Recreation Department and the New York Restoration Project’s plan to plant tens of thousands of trees citywide during the month of April.

With volunteers from St. John’s University, 250 trees are scheduled to be planted on April 12 at The New York Botanical Garden:

- 50 *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tulip)
- 50 *Betula lenta* (sweet birch)
- 50 *Quercus rubra* (red oak)
- 50 *Quercus velutina* (black oak)
- 50 *Acer saccharum* (sugar maple)

With volunteers from the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden and from Christodora, a non-profit, non-sectarian operating foundation offering environmental education and leadership training to motivated New York City public school students, an additional 250 trees are scheduled to be planted on Arbor Day, April 25 at the Botanical Garden:

- 10 *Amelanchier canadensis* (shadbush or serviceberry)
- 25 *Betula populifolia* (gray birch)
- 50 *Cornus alternifolia* (pagoda dogwood)
- 50 *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood)
- 30 *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* (green ash)
- 40 *Platanus occidentalis* (sycamore)
- 50 *Quercus palustris* (pin oak)

MillionTreesNYC is part of New York City’s PlaNYC initiative with the NYC Parks & Recreation Department and the New York Restoration Project. PlaNYC is the most extensive plan to strengthen New York City’s urban environment ever undertaken by an American city, designed to create the first environmentally sustainable 21st-century city on Earth.

New York Cares, which meets pressing community needs by organizing New Yorkers into volunteer services, is mobilizing 5,500 volunteers to help give New York City’s public spaces their spring cleaning. April 12 is “Hands on New York Day,” a day of revitalizing local parks, gardens, playgrounds, community centers, homeless shelters, and schools.

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NYC Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe and NYRP Executive Director Drew Becher encourage all of New York to celebrate Arbor Day every day this April by “thinking globally and planting locally.”

The New York Botanical Garden is an advocate for the plant kingdom. The Garden pursues its mission through its role as a museum of living plant collections arranged in gardens and landscapes across its National Historic Landmark site; through its comprehensive education programs in horticulture and plant science; and through the wide-ranging research programs of The International Plant Science Center.

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*Greening the Garden sponsored by Con Edison*

*Spring Season sponsored by MetLife Foundation*

**The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad or subway. The Botanical Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays. The Garden is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *All-Garden Pass*, which includes admission to the grounds as well as to seasonal gardens, exhibitions, and attractions such as the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children’s Adventure Garden, Rock and Native Plant Gardens, and Tram Tour: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students with ID, \$7 for children ages 2–12, Members and children under 2 are free. (APRIL 8–24 ONLY: \$13 for adults, \$11 for seniors and students with ID, \$5 for children ages 2–12, Members and children under 2 are free.) A *Grounds-Only Pass* is available: \$6 for adults, \$5 for adult Bronx Residents; \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students with ID, \$1 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. Grounds-only admission is free all day on Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org)**

**The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden’s general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.**

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