



## Arbor Day Re-Tree-It

### Commemorating Scout Citizenship

May 1, 2010

Re-Tree-It is a fun way for Scouts to engage with their communities and make a long-lasting contribution to the regional landscape.

### Scouting Values

Working with local partners, Scouts across the Merrimack Valley mark the Scouting centennial by planting 100 American elm saplings. This project, jointly promoted by the Arbor Day Foundation, reinforces many of the basic Scout values: leadership, service, achievement, citizenship and devotion to the outdoors. By planting trees, Scouts are making a public commitment to their communities that will hopefully stand witness to the next 100 years of Scouting.

### Planting American Elms

For much of this nation's history, the American elm has been a principal part of our public landscape. This is especially true in Massachusetts where it is our state tree. Since the arrival of Dutch Elm Disease, however, nearly all of our native elms have been lost. Towns found their elm streets turned from shady boulevards to sun-baked, barren expanses. What few elms remain, while providing a glimpse of past majesty, are now providing the key to the tree's future. After many years of study, researchers have identified some of the survivors as varieties that can tolerate DED. These varieties have been propagated and are now becoming generally available. Two of these, 'Princeton' and 'Jefferson', have been selected for this project. 100 saplings, each 4 to 6 feet tall, will be distributed this spring.

### Joining the Re-Tree-It Program

Until January 1, only units from GLD are able to join the program. After that date trees will be generally available. Unit requests will receive priority over others.

- download project materials from the [GLD website](#)
- sign up with a district coordinator (Dan Bush: [dabush@bsamail.org](mailto:dabush@bsamail.org))
- find a partner and a suitable project site
- plan and promote a planting ceremony

