

# Plant-A-Tree Program

## What is the Plant-A-Tree Program?

The Plant-A-Tree program is a way individuals, groups and businesses can have trees planted on the National Forests to memorialize loved ones, commemorate births, weddings, anniversaries, or other special events while helping to improve the environment. In response to these wishes, the USDA Forest Service has established a special program to allow people to donate money toward planting trees on the National Forests. The minimum donation for receiving a Plant-A-Tree certificate is \$10. The minimum donation provides for the purchase and planting of 10 to 15 seedlings suitable for the planting site. This program qualifies as a charitable deduction under section 170(c)(1) or the Internal Revenue Service.

## What do Contributors Receive?

Certificates are sent as requested by the contributor after a donation is made. The certificate (suitable for framing) recognizes the contribution to the Plant-A-Tree program and has a space where the person's name is added, identifies the reason for the commemorative event, birthday, retirement, wedding, in memory of, etc., and is signed by an official from the U.S. Forest Service. A tree and an explanation of the program are also included on the certificate. If requested, certificates can be sent to more than one person. If special wording is desired on the certificate, please let us know.

## Where are the trees planted?

The trees are planted on general forest land. They are not designated on the ground as a memorial, but are planted for multiple-use purposes. The trees will not be individually recognized, but will be part of the forest ecosystem managed to sustain our natural resources. The size and species of the trees planted will be appropriate to the site and will be at the discretion of the Forest Service. The contributor does not receive any guarantees on the future use of these trees and the trees are the property of the United States of America.

On the White River National Forest many trees are planted in conjunction with rehabilitation of areas burned by wildfire, riparian area rehabilitation, wildlife habitat improvement, timber production or in recreation areas in need of vegetation diversity.

## Can I request a Plant-A-Tree certificate through the mail?

Yes. We accept Plant-A-Tree requests by mail (we do not accept credit cards so we are unable to accept online requests). All you need to do is complete the Plant-A-Tree form or include the information listed below and send in a check made out to USDA Forest Service

for at least \$10.00 to the White River National Forest, Holy Cross Ranger District, Plant-A-Tree Program, P.O. Box 190, Minturn, CO 81645, Phone 970-827-5715.

**Include the following information:**

1. Who is it for? (in memory of someone who has passed away or in honor of someone for a special occasion: birthday, anniversary, wedding, retirement, other.)
2. Who do you want the certificate sent to? (If it's a special event, the persons name and address. If it's a memorial, we need the name and address of the family of the person who has passed away). We also need the address of the person to get the certificate.
3. What is your name and address so that we can send an acknowledgement card to you letting you know that we received your check and information (this would be your receipt) as well as letting the person know who made the contribution. Please include a phone number in case we have questions or need clarification.