



# Mayor Jane Castor's

## TREE GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

#### **SOUTHERN LIVE OAK** (Quercus virginiana)



Photo Credit: UF IFAS

Native to Florida, used for large open areas to provide shade and habitat for people and wildlife with its abundance of leaves, acorns, and branches.

#### RED MAPLE (Acer rubrum)



Native to the Eastern U.S., this large tree grows best in wet places. Provides ornamental fall coloring that lasts several weeks.

## LONGLEAF PINE (Pinus palustris)



Native to the Southeastern U.S., this tall evergreen produces fragrant sap and needles, while being resistant to salt, drought, and pests.

### YAUPON HOLLY (Ilex vomitoria)



Native to Southeastern U.S., a small tree that produces caffeinated leaves that can be used for tea. Grows slowly and can be easily pruned.

#### RED MULBERRY



Native to Florida, this versatile large tree has edible berries and soft wood.

It does best in full sun with plenty of room to grow.

## SIMPSON STOPPER (Myrcianthes fragrans)



Native to Florida, a mediumsized tree that produces small fruit. The evergreen foliage changes shape depending on sunlight and pruning.

## TREE PLANTING SAFETY & CARE





1

#### **CALL FIRST!**

## **Sunshine**

Call 811 or visit sunshine811.com two full business days before digging to have buried facilities located and marked.

Check positive response codes before you dig!

2

#### LET'S DIG!

- 1. Dig a hole that is 2-3 times wider than the width of the tree. Make sure the hole isn't too deep; the root ball of the tree should sit 1-2 inches above ground level when planted.
- 2. When backfilling the hole, firmly press the soil down at the halfway point and again at the top, it should be level with the ground. This will prevent the tree from sinking too deep during rainfall. Do NOT fertilize at the time of planting. Should you choose to fertilize, do so after the first year.
- 3. Mulching is recommended. Arrange 2 inch layer of mulch in a 3 foot diameter around the tree, making the perimeter higher to create a slope toward the base. Leave about 4 inches around the tree base uncovered and the root flare exposed. This will help prevent bacteria growth while also guiding and preserving water for the tree to absorb.

HOW TO PLANT A TREE



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNW\_gsaSBoG

3

#### **WATERING!**

Watering is the most important step in the establishment and survival of a new tree!

Daily for the first 2 weeks
Every other day for 2 months
Weekly for 1 year

3 gallon trees need about 3-4.5 gallons of water during each watering session.

Only water during the coolest time of day, usually in the morning or evening.

Do NOT spray the foliage.



#### LEARN MORE:TAMPA.GOV/TREES

If you have any questions about your new tree,
feel free to contact:
Sherri.Mullis@tampagov.net
For more tree care information:
www.treesaregood.org