

WELCOME TO THE TOWN OF ESSEX ADOPT-A-TREE PROGRAM

Thank you for volunteering to adopt a tree in the Town of Essex. Your tree, through your efforts, will beautify our neighborhoods, provide shade in summer, habitat for wildlife, help clean the air, reduce noise, and capture carbon. Volunteers like you provide the attention and care our urban forest needs to thrive.

AS A TREE ADOPTER I PROMISE TO

- Monitor my adopted tree for good health
- Ensure that my tree is properly mulched
- Water my tree when necessary
- Inform the Program Administrator of any concerns with:
 - Overall health
 - Pest infestations
 - Safety issues from broken or dangerous limbs
 - Pruning needs
- Let the Program Administrator know if I want to discontinue participation in the program.

I PROMISE NOT TO

- Remove watering bags or stakes placed by the Town on new trees.
- Prune my tree or apply pesticides (or hire someone to do this).
- Hurt my tree by marking the bark, inserting nails or screws, or tying ropes or cords around the trunk or branches.

LEGAL STUFF

- The adopted tree remains public property.
- The Conservation and Trails Committee, Tree Warden, and Program Administrator will support adopters through training, respond to adopter concerns quickly, and coordinate adopter activities.
- The Town of Essex reserves the right to revise or discontinue the Adopt-a-Tree program.
- Tree adopters are not responsible for damage to their adopted tree or damage caused by the adopted tree unless brought about by an action taken which is not in compliance with the conditions of the program.
- The Town of Essex does not assume liability for the actions of the Tree Adopters or anyone who may assist them while participating in the Adopt-a-Tree program. Participants must read and agree to a Release/Waiver of Liability.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Darren Schibler, Program Administrator

Town of Essex, 81 Main St.

Essex Junction, VT 05452

(802) 878-1343

dschibler@essex.org

ADOPT-A-TREE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the responsibilities and program conditions described in the Adopt-a-Tree Program description. I would like to adopt the following tree in Essex:

Tree Identification Number

Tree Street Address

Adopter Name

Adopter Address

Phone number

E-mail address

ACCEPTED BY

Conservation & Trails Committee Chair

Adopt-a-Tree Program Administrator

Date

RELEASE/WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, the undersigned volunteer, desire and agree to volunteer for the Town of Essex in the Adopt-a-Tree program. I further understand and agree as follows:

1. I am donating my time and services without any compensation and shall at no time be considered an employee or independent contractor of the Town, and the Town will not provide insurance coverage of any kind for me.
2. I know of no reason, medical or otherwise, that would prevent me from performing the tasks required to participate in this activity.
3. The Town of Essex will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that its programs are accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities who wish to participate. I understand it is my responsibility to notify the Department of any disability that requires such accommodation, and if I do not I will hold the Town

- harmless from any injuries or damages that may result from my failure to do so;
4. I understand that the activities will occur in an outdoor environment which may be or could become dangerous, and there are inherent risks of injury, up to and including death. I agree to be responsible for my own safety and I assume all risks of participating in this activity as well as full responsibility for my conduct and actions, including any injury to myself or others or damage to property that may result while volunteering. I understand the Town is not responsible for the acts of myself or of other volunteers or participants.
 5. I, binding my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby agree to release, hold harmless and forever discharge the Town, its officers, officials, employees, agents, or volunteers from any and all loss, damage, expense, liability, causes of action, or cost of any kind for injuries (including property damage, personal injury, disability and death) arising from my participation in the Adopt-a-Tree program, whether caused by the negligence of the Town or otherwise.
 6. I hereby consent to and authorize the Town of Essex the rights to publish, reproduce and use for advertising or any other purpose, any photograph, video, image, and audio recording or other likeness of myself or my child.

Signature:

Date: _____

Parental Consent: I _____, the (Parent/Legal Guardian) of the above Volunteer, hereby agree to bind myself and the minor Volunteer to the terms of this Release/Waiver of Liability.

Signature:

Date: _____