



THE FRUIT TREE PLANTING FOUNDATION

...PLANTING FRUIT TREES FOR A HEALTHY PLANET.

P.O. Box 632, MILL VALLEY, CA 94942 • 831.621.8096 • 831.621.7978 (FAX) • INFO@FTPF.ORG • WWW.FTPF.ORG

FTPF Orchard Donation: What To Expect

Congratulations for being chosen as the recipient of a Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) orchard donation. The following document and checklist provides a summary of our program and what to expect so you'll be ready when our team arrives at your site to donate and plant your new orchard.

FTPF orchards are meant to provide your facility and community with environmental and nutritional benefits for decades, including improving community health by providing nutritious harvest; improving the environment and combating global warming through the known benefits trees have for the air, soil, and water; restoring ecosystems and animal habitat; and empowering volunteers to take positive action for the environment.

An average orchard can be planted in a half day with sufficient volunteers. Our projects are completed under the direction of FTPF's certified arborist, who is also available to provide a fruit tree care workshop upon request. At the planting, there will be plenty of smiles as volunteers, including families and children, find great joy and learning from the experience. Local media often attends our events to report on the effort. To get a better sense of what a planting looks like, you can see photos from recent programs here: www.ftpf.org/accomplishments.htm.

Our orchard donation provides high-quality trees (typically in a 5-gallon container size using trees from local sources, but sometimes smaller or larger, depending on the project), shrubs (if applicable), organic soil amendments, equipment, and we travel to your site to provide orchard design expertise, aftercare training, planting labor, and oversee the planting. Our team will consult with your designated point person to determine desired quantities, types, and cultivars, and then we take care of the plant material purchases from there. We also coordinate all logistics, from arranging tree deliveries to offering workshops for volunteers interested in learning more about tree care. We do ask that you help recruit volunteers to join us for the planting, with a minimum of about 20, and hopefully more. The most effective projects are those where we have attendance of between 40-100 volunteers.

Our certified arborist will be in touch with you soon to discuss scheduling, tree selection, and other details. In the meantime, please see the checklist on the following page to start preparing for your new orchard. If you need to reach us sooner, please call 831.621.8096 or email info@ftpf.org.

We look forward to donating a beautiful, thriving fruit tree orchard for your community to enjoy for decades!

FTPF Project Preparation Checklist

- Confirmation:* Confirm all project dates, times, and details. Once we are confirmed, we make extensive (and often expensive) logistical arrangements, including travel, tree and equipment purchases, and press release distribution, so once we agree to a planting date, cancellations are not allowed as we will have incurred nonrefundable projects costs.
- Introduction:* Conference with FTPF's arborist over the phone to discuss and finalize tree quantities, types, and sizes. Please let us know if you have existing contacts with local nurseries and/or equipment suppliers where we can obtain discounted trees and related materials. To put a face to the voice, you can learn more about Rico Montenegro, FTPF's Chief Arborist, in this 60-second television feature: www.youtube.com/watch?v=IoCOVOHx78k. You can contact Rico via email at rico@ftpf.org or by phone on 530-515-7657, otherwise he will be in touch with you.
- Volunteers:* Confirm that at least 20 volunteers from the community will join us for the orchard planting, and more, if possible. The more volunteers we have, the quicker the planting will be completed and the more stewardship there will be for the orchard. Please also make sure that the person(s) in charge of caring for the trees will attend the planting to receive training, as needed.
- Soil digability:* If you haven't already done so, please confirm that an 18-inch deep, 2-foot wide hole can be manually dug with a shovel and/or pick-ax in a reasonable amount of time, around 15 minutes or less, and that there is no extreme compaction or construction materials under the top soil that might be a hindrance. Let us know immediately of any obstacles.
- Tree quantities:* Confirm that the number of trees requested will fit in your planting space by measuring tree placements at 15 feet intervals (roughly equivalent to 5 large adult steps). Please note that the trees do not have all be in the same area, they can be scattered about the site as long as they are near a water source.
- Drainage:* Confirm that drainage is decent at the planting site by filling the hole dug in the previous step with water, allowing it to drain, filling it with water again, and noting how long it takes for this second drainage to complete. Please let us know if the second draining takes longer than 24 hours.
- Delivery & storage:* If the trees and equipment are to be delivered prior to the planting day, ensure that there is a safe storage area to hold them and that someone will be available to receive them when the deliverers arrive and water them thoroughly every other day until the planting.
- Mulch:* If applicable, depending on how you answered this question on our application, make arrangements to have mulching material dropped off at the site prior to the planting day. Our arborist will discuss this with you in more detail to provide guidance.
- Equipment:* Encourage volunteers to bring spade shovels, and let us know exactly how many shovels, pick-axes, wheelbarrows, and feet of hosing will be available so we arrive prepared.
- Underground obstacles:* Prior to the planting, make sure to mark or note any areas where there might be underground obstacles such as water lines.
- Irrigation:* Ensure that the irrigation source, typically a hose bib, that will be used to water the trees is turned on and in close proximity to the planting site. Confirm that you have enough hosing available to reach all the trees. If not, please let us know.
- Bathrooms:* Confirm that bathrooms will be available for volunteers during the planting.
- Meeting:* After all pre-arrangements have been made, prepare to meet the FTPF team at the planting site a day before or early on the day of the planting to design the new orchard. If your team has arboricultural expertise and would like to come up with your own design in advance, we are more than happy to follow your plan and assist as needed.