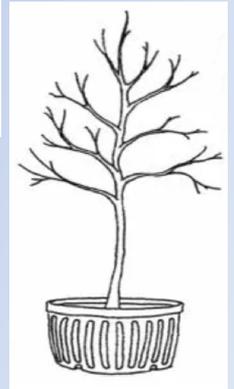
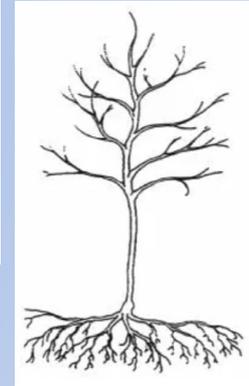
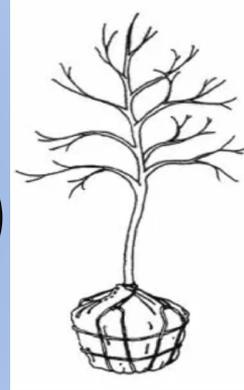


Hamden Tree Planting from B&B to Bare Roots to

Mike Montgomery **Pots**

- USDA Forest Service (retired)
- Hamden Tree Commission

**Lessons from the 1990s
for the 2020s**





1989 Tornado FEMA Grant (1991)

*Town Public Works planted 37 Norway maples (thought should replace with same trees and follow Zoning regulations).

*Purchasing discovered that FEMA required that small business must be used.

*Civic Association insisted that a planting plan made by UCONN extension be followed

Volunteers Can Be Vital

*The Beautification Committee with 20 volunteers, including 3 forestry professionals, inventoried existing trees, stumps and canvassed homeowners

*A volunteer wrote an RFP for 255 trees of 16 varieties, 2" or better, staked

*Outcome: 365 trees of 14 varieties planted (28% were green ash!)



May 1989 tornado

NO PLACE FOR PUBLIC TREES!

Only the closest home has a tree lawn (self-constructed) and cars park in the unpaved public ROW.

By May 1992 debris had been removed, houses rebuilt and trees planted along streets, but no trees in yards.





- The American Forestry Assoc. received funds from businesses to distribute to small local groups to plant trees.
- Seven CT hair salons had a Cut-A-Thon and raised \$1000 that was used **to plant trees in private yards** where every tree was lost from the tornado.
- Trees were delivered Friday and Saturday 2 volunteers and the homeowners planted the trees.



Thanks to Bob Riccard



In all, 14 families were thrilled about planting and owning a tree!

A Great Example of Business and Community Working Together to Plant Trees Where Most Needed

Residents give nature a helping hand

40 volunteers pitch in to plant trees in Hamden

By Heidi Ahlstrom
Register Correspondent

HAMDEN — Through the drizzle and fog Saturday morning, about 40 volunteers persevered with shovels, rakes and soil in hand to plant 25 flowering pear trees along southern Woodin Street.

"It's good for the environment," said 33-year Woodin Street resident Bruna Bergin, as she watched with neighbors Mary Meegan and George Donarumo as volunteer workers swept dirt off the sidewalk.

"Who's going to say 'no' to a tree?" said Meegan.

All three homeowners said they will water the new trees planted in front of their houses. And they were impressed with the way volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 604, and high school students from the Student Action Club, were working.

Lester Richey, a Scout father, said that he had thought he was just going to help out with supervising the event, but wound up with dirty hands and boots instead, as did Scout Stefan Fedeyko, 17, and 11th graders Paula Mazzotta and Alison Tenney.



Sarah Jane Compton, 8, and her 10-year-old sister Nette Compton, right, enjoyed a walk to admire the newly planted trees in Hamden Saturday.

Jeff Holt/Register

"It's fun to get dirty," Mazzotta said, as she and Tenney worked to get their tree hole at the right depth. That meant digging down 2 to 3 feet, and then the workers had to mix soil, water and leaf mulch into the tree

holes.

The tree-planting project, overseen by Valerie Boyar-Naito of the town's Beautification Committee, was funded by a \$4,000 grant from the U.S. Forest Service.

The Scouts and high schoolers worked from about 9 a.m. to noon, alongside Deputy Tree Warden Charles DeMatteo, Michael Montgomery of the Forest Service, and Mayor Lillian Clayman.

25 Capital flowering pear, **bare root**

Dipped in hydrogel after delivery

Stored in barn overnight

Boy-Scouts/High School students dug holes & planted (expert oversaw root spreading and hole filling)

Public Works transported trees and leaf mulch to site, staked, cleaned-up (waived overtime).

America The Beautiful Grant (1993)

Part II—Nursery established using bare root trees
14 varieties (10 each)

These were to be replanted with examples left
as a demonstration arboretum.



Twenty-years later 25% of the
Capitol flowering pear trees
remain and the street has few
other trees.



Sargent cherry
Moved from
nursery at
Brooksvale Park
to Rendeiro Park
using a tree spade

Planting Bare Root Trees

Advantages

- Lower cost
- More fine roots
- Suitable for volunteer planting
- Best for non street-side locations
- Uses less resources



Disadvantages

- Plant only when dormant
- Store in cool building
- Plant within 10 days
- Need to order large quantity for shipping to be economical
- Messy
- Small sizes establish best

In 1992, trees were dipped in hydrogel after shipment and had 25% mortality.

Now some nurseries will dip trees and put them in plastic bags for a surcharge of ~\$10/tree.

Planting Containerized Trees with an Auger



20 pot with trees and empty #15 and #25 pots. Note size increase is mostly in pot width—**width is important.**

36" diameter auger on Bobcat. Auger is removed for transport and lifting trees from truck into the planting hole. Outperforms backhoe in road speed, maneuverability and making a neat hole of precise depth. Limitations are soil with rocks or roots and limited lifting height and weight.

Estimated Wholesale Price for Acer rubrum 'Red Sunset'



Planted May 2022

Cost Estimate	Size Ordered	Remarks
\$60	1-1/4" BR	branched bare root (fob West Coast)
\$98 +\$10 dip	1.5" B.R.	1.5" branched bare root (fob Western New York)
\$150	#20 pot	(fob CT, including below)
\$200	#25 pot	caliper ~2"; weight = 125-150 pounds
\$295	2-2.5" caliper B&B	weight = ~500 pounds

To produce a #15 to #25 container tree, a CT nursery pots a 1-1/4" branched bare root during March to early May and will not sell the tree until a fibrous root system has developed—usually late July.

Containerized Trees

Less costly, easy to handle and ideal for fall planting.

Trees grown in large pots starting in the spring and planted in fall have few circular roots.

Fall planted trees need water only when planted.

Disadvantage is limited selection of species and varieties. (Largely a marketing problem rather than availability of suitable liners.)

Solution: Regional consortium (e.g., COG) to contract with a CT nursery to grow trees in large containers for member towns.



First Blush Cherry