



Tree Planting Campaign Fundraising Resources

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the NFF need to plant 50 million trees?

Every year, more and more of our National Forests are affected by natural disasters that cause deforestation. Wildfire, insects and disease - exacerbated by climate change - are jeopardizing the very things that make our forests special. Planting trees helps restore forest cover to these lands, ensuring that our forests can continue to provide wildlife habitat, supply water to millions of Americans, and help fight climate change.

How much does it cost to plant a tree and what does my money actually support?

The NFF plants one tree for every dollar donated. Your donations help provide seedlings that are then planted by the USDA Forest Service. For every dollar donated, the Forest Service invests \$2 in these important projects by sourcing seeds, identifying the areas in most need of tree planting, contracting the labor, and providing follow-up care to ensure the seedlings survive.

How much of my donation goes directly to tree planting?

The National Forest Foundation works hard to maximize your donations. We are proud that we invest 85% of every donation directly into our tree planting programs. We have attained the highest ratings by Charity Navigator and Guidestar, and are accredited by the Better Business Bureau.

Where are the trees planted?

The NFF works with the Forest Service to select planting sites on our 193-million-acre National Forest System where the ecological need is greatest. Many of our plantings occur in the Western U.S. where wildfires are driving reforestation need, but we plant in all regions, being responsive to where trees are needed most. Donors cannot choose where trees are planted.

Why does the Forest Service need extra money to plant trees, isn't this their job?

While the Forest Service is tasked with managing our National Forests, the rate of deforestation caused by wildfire and other natural events has outpaced the agency's ability to respond. There are currently more than 1 million acres of National Forests in urgent need of reforestation. That's where the NFF comes in – we're working to raise funds necessary to reforest these cherished landscapes.

How do I know that my trees were actually planted?

The NFF adheres to strict auditing guidelines. At the completion of each tree-planting season, the NFF generates detailed reports about that year's tree planting projects for our partners and fundraisers.

Are seedlings monitored for survival?

Before seedlings are ever planted, the Forest Service is careful to plant only when conditions are optimal, ensuring the highest possible survival rate. The Forest Service monitors seedlings for several years after they are planted. They use random sampling and, if needed, will carry out follow-up care or install browse protectors or other efforts to further boost seedling survival.

Are planted trees going to be harvested or somehow managed in the future?

No. The NFF only supports tree planting projects to restore forest health following natural disturbances. In some cases, the Forest Service may employ limited forest management, but only to improve forest resiliency and reduce the risk of wildfire.

Additional questions? See more NFF Tree Planting FAQs [here](#).