



San Juan National Forest

U.S. Department of Agriculture

PLANT-A-TREE PROGRAM

The Plant-A-Tree Program is a national program established by the USDA Forest Service in 1983. Donors contribute money toward tree planting on National Forests to memorialize loved ones or commemorate births, weddings or special events, while helping to improve the environment. The program qualifies as a charitable donation under section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Service.

How Donations Are Used

Plant-A-Tree donations are used to fund projects where the greatest reforestation need exists. These are usually areas where fires or other natural disturbance events have resulted in the need to plant trees. Trees are not designated on the ground as a memorial or individually recognized, but are planted within areas needing reforestation.

Planted trees become part of the forest ecosystem managed to sustain natural resources. The size and species of the trees planted will be appropriate to the site at the discretion of the Forest Service. The contributor does not “own” specific trees or forest stands, which are federal property. Rather, the contribution fosters forest health and secures investment in forested landscapes for the future.

Donor Acknowledgement

To commemorate the contribution, the Forest Service provides donors with a certificate suitable for framing recognizing the gift. If the contribution is made on behalf of another person or family, please indicate the name of the person or persons to be recognized, and this information will be placed

on the certificate. We will also need the address of where to send the certificate if it is to go somewhere other than to the person making the contribution.

How to Contribute

Donations are deposited in a fund specifically designated for reforestation projects on the San Juan National Forest. The suggested minimum donation is \$10, which typically covers the cost of acquiring and planting five seedlings. With your donation, please provide the following information:

1. In whose name is the donation being made?
2. Is the donation made to recognize a memorial for a deceased person, a birthday, retirement, etc.)? If so, include any special message you would like on the certificate.
3. Who should receive the certificate(s)? Include name(s) and address(es).
4. Include your name and address so we can acknowledge receipt of your request and send proof of your donation for income tax purposes.

Checks should be made payable to the USDA Forest Service, with “Plant-A-Tree, San Juan National Forest” on the memo portion of the check. Cash or credit card payments can be made in person at San Juan National Forest offices (credit card payments can also be taken over the phone.) Checks can be mailed to San Juan National Forest Plant-A-Tree Coordinator, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, CO 81301. Requests may take a few days to process. Please note that contributions cannot be refunded.

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