

Treeways

April 2013

How do I successfully plant a tree that will reach maturity in my woodland? How do I reforest my ash woodland?

Planting and nurturing a tree is a process, not an event. Reforesting your woodland in the wake of DED, EAB, oak wilt, buckthorn, honeysuckle and other impacts is a process.

Here is the process:

1. Begin with a healthy tree and plant your small tree in a perfect location at the correct depth in good soil.
2. Water it regularly, especially if there are periods of drought.
3. Fertilize, if needed, depending on the site.
4. Install a donut of shredded wood mulch to keep lawn mowers and weed whips away and to reduce competition from weeds and grasses.
5. We have lots of wildlife so **your young tree will need protection** in the form of a tree tube to keep the rodents from eating the tender young bark and the antlered rodents from eating the tops and rubbing their horns. The tubes should be cleaned out yearly in order to provide the best benefits.

Enjoy your new tree/trees!

Repeat the process.

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And that is how you nurture a young tree and how to gradually reforest your ash woodland. **An entire forest can be created in a surprisingly short time.** In fact many forests have been planted by doing the above. You don't need to plant large nursery grown trees because planting a few young trees each year will pay huge dividends. See you at the Arbor Day Green Fair.

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