

Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District and Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County offer Putnam County's 2019 Annual Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale. This program has a long-standing tradition of promoting the planting of trees, shrubs, flowers and groundcovers. "I know it's the middle of winter", said Lauri Taylor, District Manager, "but why not get excited about what you can plant when spring arrives!"

This year, with every order placed, we are offering a free Common Milkweed seed packet. Our plant selection and the Milkweed seed packet will help the Monarch Butterfly survive. The Monarch Butterfly is one of the most recognizable species in North America and it's in trouble. Their population has been declining for the past decade. While you can't single-handedly bring the Monarch Butterfly back, you can make a difference by making your landscape Monarch Butterfly friendly.

When communities plant trees they can help reduce the impacts of climate change. One shade tree can reduce air conditioning bills by 10% and can intercept 760-4000 gallons of rainfall annually, depending on the species and size of the tree. Trees reduce the amount of storm-water runoff which reduces erosion and water pollution while reducing the effects of flooding. Trees also help reduce the need for new power plants.

With all of this in mind, "Putnam County is excited to offer a great selection of plantings in our 2019 Annual Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale", said Lauri Taylor. All of the selections are offered at reasonable prices to ensure every landowner can afford to support this worthwhile conservation program. We are once again offering fruit trees in addition to apple and cherry trees. However, there is a very limited supply so order soon.

Please visit: <u>www.putnamcountyny.com/keepputnamgreen</u> to see all that is available this year and consider making a contribution to a healthier planet by planting a tree. Orders for the Seedling Sale must be received by Wednesday March 27th and will be available for pick-up on Friday April 26th and Saturday April 27th. Details found on website. For additional information please contact: Lauri Taylor, Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District Lauri.taylor@putnamcountyny.gov 845-878-7918