



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK  
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## **PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL ARBOR DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL AT PLANTING FIELDS ARBORETUM STATE HISTORIC PARK**

Planting Fields Foundation and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation are pleased to announce the 33rd annual Arbor Day Family Festival taking place at Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park, in Oyster Bay, New York on Saturday, April 27, and Sunday, April 28 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Since 1987, Planting Fields has commemorated national Arbor Day with a weekend of family-friendly activities to celebrate the importance of trees and educate on tree care and conservation.

“The Arbor Day Family Festival is one of our most cherished events at Planting Fields,” notes Gina Wouters, Executive Director, Planting Fields Foundation. “With over 4,000 specimen trees, 80 magnolias, and 13 Long Island champion trees throughout our landscape, we’re excited to offer an experience that engages our community and inspires preservation of this important natural resource.”

“Planting Fields has celebrated a rich history of magnificent trees and their importance for over 100 years. The Coe family started this great tradition of planting unique and rare specimen trees and today we are proud to continue to honor that tradition. Every day is Arbor Day at Planting Fields,” adds Vinnie Simeone, Director, Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park.

### **Activities from 11:00am – 4:00pm on both days include:**

- Tree planting ceremonies with Smokey Bear
- Live music with *Peat Moss & the Fertilizers* and *Johnny Herbert*
- Tree seedling giveaways provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation – plant a tree of your own at home!
- Tree climbing for children with safety harness, supervised by trained professionals from Wonderland Tree Care, Inc.
- Children’s scavenger hunt, crafts, caricaturists and book readings
- Guided garden tours at historic Coe Hall
- Plant Clinic by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County
- Long Island Bonsai Society Exhibition in the South Lounge
- Green industry associations in the Hay Barn

Admission to the Arbor Day Family Festival is **FREE** for members and \$20 per vehicle for non-members. Once you enter the park, all activities, tree climb for kids, exhibits, and shows are included in the admission fee. All proceeds benefit Planting Fields.

**Tree planting sponsors include:** LIAA (Long Island Arborist Association), LINLA (Long Island Nursery Landscape Association, PSEG-Long Island and NSLGA (Nassau Suffolk Landscape Gardiner's Association)

**Sponsors of the Arbor Day Family Festival include:** AARP Long Island, Anton Media Group, Connoisseur Media Long Island, Long Island Garden Railway Society, LeafFilter of Long Island, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Natural Heritage Trust, and our lead sponsor, Wonderland Tree Care, Inc.

### **About Planting Fields Foundation**

Planting Fields Foundation preserves and interprets Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park as the premier public garden and Gold Coast estate for today and tomorrow by creating enriching experiences for the visiting public. Founded in 1955 by William R. Coe, the Foundation is a not for profit public educational foundation chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and tax exempt under the status for a 501C3 organization.

Located in Oyster Bay, New York and originally landscaped by the Olmstead Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, the Arboretum grounds feature 409 acres of greenhouses, rolling lawns, formal gardens, woodland paths and outstanding plant collections. The original historic estate buildings remain intact including Coe Hall, a 65-room Tudor Revival mansion designed by Walker & Gillette. The interior of the house is a showcase of artistry and craftsmanship and features a distinctly American aesthetic through original ironwork commissions by Samuel Yellin and murals painted by artists Robert W. Chanler and Everett Shinn. To learn more about Planting Fields Foundation, please visit the website at [www.plantingfields.org](http://www.plantingfields.org).

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