THE REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM: Give a gift, create a memory

The Naperville Park District’s Remembrance Program provides a visible and meaningful way to commemorate a special event such as a wedding, anniversary or birth of a child. It also makes a wonderful memorial to a loved one.

Several remembrance/dedication options with varying fees are offered:

1. Tree planted in a park
2. Park bench
3. Picnic table
4. Small shelter

Each is accompanied by an engraved, commemorative, solid bronze plaque to recognize the individual(s) being honored.

Remembrance Trees

For a fee of $500, a tree is planted at a park of the donor’s choosing, based on a list of available locations provided by Park District staff.

The Park District also will provide an approved tree species list. The identified trees are well-suited to the overall environment and soil conditions. Staff can assist the donor in selecting the park and type of tree.

Trees that are chosen for planting are 2-1/2”–3” in diameter since young trees this size have the best chance of survival after planting. Trees are typically planted in the spring or fall, in conjunction with the Park District’s planting schedule.

In the event that a donor’s tree dies within three years of planting, Park District staff will replace it at no additional cost. If it dies after three years, the donor will be given the opportunity to purchase a replacement tree. Park District staff will maintain the associated plaque for as long as the tree remains in place.

The donor provides a personalized message (based on a maximum number of allotted characters) to be cast in a solid bronze plaque; the plaque will be installed at the base of the tree.

Benefits of Planting Trees

Trees provide many environmental benefits:

1. They absorb carbon dioxide (CO2) and convert it into the oxygen we breathe
2. The roots of trees often trap pollutants that would normally contaminate ground water
3. Trees hold soil in place and falling leaves return nutrients to the ground
4. Trees assist in climate control, reduce air conditioning costs and air pollution
5. Trees provide shelter and breeding places for wildlife

Remembrance Benches, Picnic Tables and Small Picnic Shelters

Enhance a playground or neighborhood park by adding one of these amenities while honoring someone special.

Donating a bench, picnic table or shelter

Individuals interested in purchasing a commemorative bench, picnic table or shelter should contact the District for additional information regarding available locations, styles of structures and related costs.

Each of these options also includes an engraved, commemorative, solid bronze plaque to recognize the individual(s) being honored.

For more information

If you are interested in finding out more about the Remembrance Program or would like to purchase any of the Remembrance options, please contact the Naperville Park District at 630-848-5000 or email info@napervilleparks.org and include “Remembrance Program” in the subject line.