

The state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has formally announced its Reforestation Program, aimed to plant 15,000 free trees in the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) regulated area.

The DCR was awarded \$4.487 million in federal stimulus funds for tree planting on properties within the regulated area, which includes the communities of Worcester, West Boylston, Boylston, Holden and Shrewsbury. All property owners within the regulated areas are eligible (whether trees have been removed as part of the eradication program or not) to have trees planted on their property at no cost.

In the spirit of diversifying the urban forest, property owners choose from a variety of tree species. After scheduling an appointment, DCR Foresters will conduct site visits to your property to discuss tree selection and proper placement, and will return in either the spring or fall with seasonal employees to plant.

Call the Reforestation hotline at (508) 852-8073 to participate in this program.