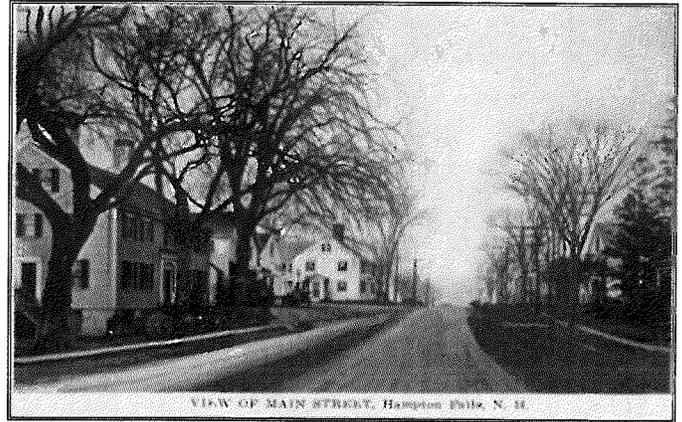


AMERICAN LIBERTY ELM TREES

On August 14, 1765, the "Liberty Tree" was born when patriots protesting the Stamp Act used a large elm in Boston to hang two effigies. Ten years later, the British got back at the Sons of Liberty by cutting down the tree prior to evacuating the city. Two hundred years after the protest, majestic elm trees that once lined main streets nationwide were felled by a greater adversary, Dutch elm disease. Old photographs show elm trees on the Hampton Falls Town Common but the trees probably died from Dutch elm disease which plagued the tree population in the 1930s.



Dear Hampton Falls Property Owners,

In 2007, Wal-Mart presented the Town of Hampton Falls with a donation as part of the Elm Research Institute's "Johnny Elmseed" program to promote elm tree population growth in communities.

The Hampton Falls Town Improvement Committee celebrated the planting of seven American Liberty Elms; six being planted along the frontage of Governor Weare Park and the largest being dedicated in memory of long-time Road Agent Dick Merrill. The Town Common was chosen for the planting of the tree in dedication as it is a special place and because it is central to the community. The monument and cannons and memorials honor "those who have served as members of the Armed Forces and those who've served our community." Visitors to the Town Common will find a dedication plaque affixed to a stone adjacent to the 20-plus foot American Liberty Elm now standing on the Common.

As the Tercentennial of the Town of Hampton Falls approaches in 2022, the Board of Selectmen is looking to continue the efforts of previous Boards with regard to the planting of elm trees. Planting of up to 300 Liberty Elms would be a fitting tribute to the Town's heritage and natural beauty.

Please help. Hampton Falls property owners are encouraged to become involved by purchasing and planting Liberty Elm trees, or identifying locations that may be determined to be safe and proper areas for planting of Liberty Elms. Information on the planting program, and how to sign up, is available on the Town website or at the Town Hall.

This outreach seeks interest from property owners looking to purchase, obtain and plant Liberty Elm trees, and also to identify locations along town roads that may be determined to be a safe and proper area for the planting of an elm tree utilizing funds raised by warrant articles. The process is a lengthy one in that trees are ordered and prepaid **one year in advance** of delivery, distribution and planting. One important obligation of the property owner would be caring for the newly planted tree by watering it on a regular basis for one year.

Specific information includes:

- The trees will be purchased and ordered one year in advance of delivery and distribution.
- The trees will be American Liberty Elms, 2" caliper, 10 feet high, bare root.
- The potential price, reduced by ordering in volume, is approximately \$50 per tree.

If you are interested in participating and/or assisting with this effort, please contact Town Secretary Susan Ayer via e-mail at secretary@hamptonfalls.org, or by calling **926-4618, extension 2**, indicating if you wish to be added to the list of interested participants and/or you have a suggestion for potential planting locations. **Thank you.**

Hampton Falls Board of Selectmen



Hampton Falls American Liberty Elm Tree Restoration Project

As part of the Town's Tercentenary Celebration coming in 2022, the Hampton Falls Board of Selectmen is looking to continue the elm tree planting program that began in 2007 when six elm trees were planted along Route 88 by Gov. Weare Park as well as the Liberty Elm Tree with a "Liberty Tree Memorial" plaque planted on the Town Common. This project is intended to replace the Town's historic elm trees that were lost to Dutch elm disease many years ago. Famously, it is believed that John Greenleaf Whittier was inspired by the elm trees he saw out his window while staying at the "Elmfield" residence of a friend on Route 1 near the Town Common (a home since dismantled and moved to Connecticut). Our intent of this project is to plant a minimum of 100 trees.

Working with the Liberty Elm Research Institute, we have negotiated a discounted price of \$40 each for a 1 ½ " caliper 10 " tree – this price is contingent upon a minimum order of 100 "grow to order" trees being purchased. If this order is placed by June 2017, the trees will be available in the spring of 2020 and will have a life-time guarantee against Dutch elm disease. Once planted, the trees will need care by the homeowner which will include fertilizing and watering on a regular basis for the first year. The Town Improvement Committee will assist in the planting for any resident ordering trees that needs assistance. Please reserve your trees by completing the information below. A prepayment check will be required with your order. We will pick up the trees at the Institute in Keene in the spring of 2020 and bring them to Hampton Falls for distribution by purchaser(s) pickup.

A completed form **MUST** accompany your check payable to the "Town of Hampton Falls" in prepayment of your order by September 30, 2016 to:

**Hampton Falls Town Hall
Attention: Larry Smith
1 Drinkwater Road
Hampton Falls, NH 03844**

OR email Susan Ayer at secretary@hamptonfalls.org with your request *and* drop off or mail the completed form and check payable to the Town of Hampton Falls with a memo on the check indicating "Elm Tree Fund."

Hampton Falls American Liberty Elm Tree Restoration Project

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Number of Trees _____ x \$40 each = Total Due \$ _____