# 2018 Tree and Shrub Program

belknap county conservation district

- Plant Order Deadline: **March 6th**. Plant orders are filled on a first come, first served basis. Orders received after March 1st will be filled if plants are available. We will refund your money for any portion of an order not filled.
- Order Pick-Up: ***Please indicate on your order form where you will pick-up your plants.***

**April 27:** at the Gilmanton Iron Works Fire Station from 5-7 PM at the intersection of Routes 140 and Church Street (behind the Post Office).

**April 28:** from 10 AM—2 PM at Picnic Rock Farm (formerly Longridge Farm), Route 3 in Meredith.

**April 29:** from 10 AM –12 PM at Picnic Rock Farm (formerly Longridge Farm), Route 3 in Meredith.

***BCCD will not be responsible for plant stock once it is removed from the pickup site.***
**Put your plants in the ground as soon as possible after pickup.**

Belknap CCD's 26th annual fundraising sale is offering a wide variety of plants . Please read our plant Description pages; they're full of information! IF we have plants left over we will have a Surplus Plant Sale.
**Information and Commonly asked questions:**

**Note: when you pick up your plants most of them will be dormant (not yet leafed out) and will be packed 'bareroot' meaning they are not in soil. We keep the roots moist and the plants in cold storage to simulate winter conditions until a few days before you pick them up.**

**Important Tip:** When choosing your plants, it is important to note what the appropriate soil conditions & light requirements are for your selections. The Order Form and Descriptions section have symbols and a key to guide you.

- **USDA** Plant **Hardiness Zone** is the standard by which gardeners can determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. Belknap County is within USDA Plant Hardiness Zone range of 4b to 5b with some scattered areas of Zone 6a. To see what zone your town may be within check out this website and enter your zip code. http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/phzmweb/interactivemap.aspx
  We typically offer plant varieties with a Hardiness Zone of 4 or lower (more cold tolerant) and indicate on the sales information when a plant prefers Zone 5.
- ***Will all the plants survive?*** Most of them will. Typically 70-95% of seedlings, 80-95% of transplants, 90-100% of grafted fruit trees, 95% of containerized items survive. Keeping the roots healthy is key.
- ***What is the difference between those types?*** "Seedlings" are from cuttings grown in one place or seed; transplants, ie (2-3) grew 2 years as a seedling then moved for more space to a transplant bed for 3 years. This results in a sturdier plant with greater root, stem and branch development & more shape. Grafted fruit trees have the rootstock of one variety of tree spliced with a branch from another variety to help control how big the tree will get, fruit maturation, & to improve overall performance.
- ***What can I do to help them?*** bareroot stock - plant will come wrapped in damp packing material, not in soil. Take your plants home and get them in the ground quickly, especially the bare items. If you want to soak your plants in water, leave them for no longer than an hour, longer than that can damage them. If you can't plant them as soon as you get home, leave them in their wrappers in a cool, dark place. If it will be more than a few days, the plants might prefer if you heel them in: dig an angled trench, remove the wrappings, put the roots into the trench, water them, then cover with soil and water again. Roots dry out very quickly, so it is important to keep them covered with moist wrappings while you work on planting others in the package. Containerized plants are not in soil and will also dry out if not frequently watered.
- ***Do I really need to cut back the fruit trees?*** It helps them recover from losing roots during harvesting, & develop a better shape for fruit production. There is a method and reason for how trees are pruned. We will provide information for you when you pick up your plants.
- ***Do I need 2 varieties to get fruit or nuts?*** Most often, yes. Cross pollination usually means plants need pollen from another variety of the same type of plant. For example: Patriot Blueberries don't pollinate Patriot Blueberries—you need a different kind of blueberry or wild blueberry to pollinate. Same for apples. Some nut trees will cross pollinate within the same variety and having more than one tree helps production.