

25 March 2025

Work Plan for Building a 24' x 12' Bare Root Nursery for Tree Growing in Bath, Maine

Project Name: Municipal Bare Root Tree Nursery

Location: 57 Old Brunswick Rd

Project Duration: 3months

Lead Agency/Department: Bath Community Forestry Committee (BCFC)

Project Coordinator: Bruce Brennan 207-837-1926

1. Project Objectives

- Establish a 24' x 12' bare root nursery to grow trees and shrubs for municipal landscaping, reforestation, and urban greening projects.
- Ensure sustainable and cost-effective tree production.
- Promote community engagement and education in tree cultivation.

2. Site Selection & Preparation (Week 1-2)

Tasks:

- Select a Suitable Location:
- Contact Dig Safe
- Ensure proper sunlight exposure (at least 6 hours/day).
- Select well-drained soil with easy access to water.
- Consider proximity to municipal facilities for ease of maintenance.
- Clear and Prepare the Site:
- Remove debris, weeds, and unwanted vegetation.
- Conduct soil testing for pH, nutrients, and drainage.
- Amend soil as needed (compost, sand, or organic matter).
- Source lumber

Responsible Party: BCFC, volunteers

3. Construction of Nursery Beds (Week 3-4)

Tasks:

- Mark out the 24' x 12' area
- Create raised beds (6"–12" high) for improved drainage.
- Flame treat hemlock timbers

- Leave 2–3 feet of space between rows for easy access.
- Install Soil Amendments:
 - Add 4” base of coarse sand and 8” topsoil/compost blend
 - Ensure soil is well-aerated and loose for root development.
- Set Up Irrigation System:
 - Drip irrigation or soaker hoses for efficient watering.
 - Ensure proper drainage to prevent root rot.

Materials Needed: 6”x6”x12’ Hemlock timber, topsoil, irrigation pipes, hoses, mulch

Responsible Party: BCFC, volunteers

4. Planting & Initial Tree Care (Week 5-6)

Tasks:

- Select Tree And Shrub Species:
 - Choose native or climate-adapted species.
 - Prioritize trees suitable for municipal streets, parks, and public spaces.
- Sowing or Planting Bare Root Seedlings:
 - Space seedlings appropriately to avoid root competition.

- Use protective mulch wood chips to retain soil moisture and reduce weeds
- Use tree wrap and stake for support

Responsible Party: BCFC

5. Maintenance & Monitoring (Ongoing)

Tasks:

- Watering: Ensure regular watering, adjusting for weather conditions.
- Weeding: Perform manual or mulch-based weed control.
- Pest & Disease Management: Monitor and address common tree diseases.
- Pruning & Training: Shape young trees to ensure strong growth.

Responsible Party: BCFC, volunteers

6. Community Engagement & Education (Ongoing)

Tasks:

- Organize community tree-planting days.
- Educate residents on tree care and urban forestry.

- Partner with local schools for environmental awareness programs.

Responsible Party: Schools, BCFC

7. Evaluation & Expansion (After 1 Year)

Tasks:

- Assess survival and growth rates of trees.
- Identify potential improvements in nursery operations.
- Expand nursery space or increase tree production if successful.

Responsible Party: City of Bath Arborist, BCFC

Budget Estimate

Item	Estimated Cost
Hemlock Timbers	456
Propane	20
Fasteners	50
Soil test	25
Coarse Sand 3yd	200
50/50 Blend 6 yd	480
Soil Amendments	50
Irrigation System	200
Bare Root Seedlings	250
Total Estimated Cost	1631

Key Success Indicators

- ✓ 80%+ tree survival rate in the first year
- ✓ Community involvement in planting & maintenance
- ✓ Cost savings in municipal tree procurement