

Planting action: Planting trees - but properly!

One of Plant-for-the-Planets main targets is to plant one trillion new trees worldwide – 150 trees per human. We can only reach this goal with your help!

Organizing a planting action is a great thing to do; together you can actively fight the climate crisis! In addition, a planting action is a great way to spread the message of the children and youth of Plant-for-the-Planet throughout your area. You can invite your friends, classmates, parents and other adults and even the press to your planting action.

This guide tells you what you need to think about, who can help you and what you should keep in mind!

Let's go!

1. Form an organizational team

You can organize a planting action on your own, but as a group the planning and organization works way better: With friends, siblings, classmates or acquaintances you can not only divide the tasks, it is also more fun to work together and become active.

So do not hesitate and **arrange a first meeting!**

2. Decide for an approach

There are different methods of approaching a planting action: you already have an available area? Then option 2 is right for you. You do not know about an area or a contact person? No problem! Take a look at option 1.



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Option 1: No idea where to plant

Step 1: Ask for support

Get help from experts for planning, organization and implementation. Every city has a forester and a mayor – explain the importance of planting trees to them and work together. **The forester can help you with the actual planting action, your mayor could be the official patron.**

To get started with your planting action find the forester responsible for your town and ask him for help, e.g. with a call to the forestry office. Foresters have an educational mandate and will be almost always happy to find an area for reforestation for your planting action. They just want you to already have a realistic plan of who will come (your class, your department...). We suggest to start looking for supporters about three months ahead of your planting action.

One more **tip**: Put on your Plant-for-the-Planet t-shirt, take some chocolate with you and just go to the town hall in person - you have the right to be heard and they will surely help you!

Where can you ask for support?

- ✓ Parks department
- ✓ Tree nurseries
- ✓ Market gardens, especially the ones for landscape gardening



Option 2: Got an area in mind

Step 1: Find the owner & get in touch

You already know an area, e.g. your school grounds or an empty meadow? Great, now you have to ask the owner for his permission and explain what you have in mind.

You cannot find the owner?

Ask your parents, friends or acquaintances for help. Otherwise contact the town's forester or the mayor and make him aware of the area!

You found the owner?

Great! Contact the forester responsible for your town or the mayor and inform him about your findings!



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Step 2: Plan the planting

Plan the planting action together with the forestry office/parks department/a gardener

Once you have found foresters, horticulturalists or gardeners, inspire them with a presentation of Plant-for-the-Planet and your idea for a planting campaign!

Discuss the following points to make your planting action a success:

Planting season:

Choose the right planting season

e.g. in Germany:

- *Spring (March, April, May)*
- *Fall (September, October, November, December)*

As a rule, neither the ground is frozen nor is there great heat and drought.



Selection of tree species and planting material:

Not every tree can grow in your chosen planting area. The best thing to do is to ask a nursery or forestry office which type of tree is suitable and fits your area.

The number of seedlings depends not only on the tree species and the area, but also for example on how many people will help planting and how much time you have.

Working tools:

You need:

Spades, watering cans, wheelbarrows, gloves, etc.

Discuss with the forester which and how many tools you need for the planting.

Remember that there is enough equipment for everyone. Often the participants can bring a few things with them. Borrowing is also an option, e.g. at the next building yard!

A small sign is also useful for symbolic tree planting campaigns. This way, everyone who passes by later learns that this tree is a valuable symbol.

Preparation of the area:

Together with the forester, consider whether the area needs to be prepared in advance (loosen the soil).



Sometimes the ground can be really hard or covered in shrubs.

Trees can't grow if they are planted too close to each other.

Ask the forester to help you and also to be present on the day of the planting action.

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Step 3: Announce your planting action

Announce your planting action, **the place and the time** to friends and acquaintances. Pay special attention to binding participation in a non-public planting campaign!

You can also inform the city and the press to find as many participants as possible for your planting action!

You need flyers or t-shirts? Just contact Plant-for-the-Planet at: info@plant-for-the-planet.org.

Step 4: After the planting action: **Taking care of the trees**

Do not forget to clarify **who will take over the further care** of the trees (irrigation, cutting, etc.)

Planting area from the forester/forestry office:

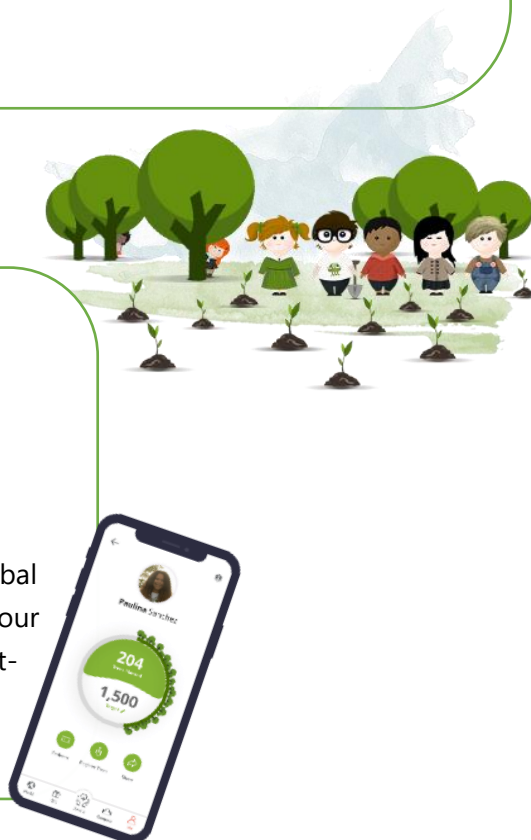
Usually the forester(s)* will take over the further care - ask if you are not sure!

Planting area from a private owner: Discuss who will take care of the trees in advance (e.g. school: headmaster/caretaker)

Two are better than one!

Enter your planted trees online. With your own tree counter you can then see how many trees you have already planted and invite others to join you!

Encourage your participants to plant trees in the Global South as well and help to tackle the climate crisis - your favorite planting project can be selected on the Plant-for-the-Planet app: weplant.app/get



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Checklist for the planting action

- ☐ **There is contact with the forester or other qualified personnel**
- ☐ **You found a planting area**
- ☐ **You found a date for the planting**
- ☐ **Participants are invited**
- ☐ **Plants/ trees organized**
- ☐ **Tools (spates, watering cans, gloves, ...) organized**
- ☐ **Media is informed about your planting action**
- ☐ **Further care of the trees is discussed**
- ☐ **Plant-for-the-Planet secretariat is informed, photos sent, trees registered in the Trillion Tree Campaign**

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

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Please send photos and reports to the Plant-for-the-Planet Secretariat: media@plant-for-the-planet.org,

We wish you a successful planting!

Planting info-box: What to pay particular attention to?

Together with your supporters the following points are **important for a successful planting**:

Planting depth:

Planting too deep is one of the most common mistakes. So please note that:

The root attachments are above the soil surface so that your plant gets enough oxygen.



Water supply:

Your plants need to be cast-on with enough water!



Protection from animals/environmental influences:

Are there any wild animals living around your planting area that could eat at the trees?

- Bite protection, plastic protection or sheep's wool protects your plants.
- In case of intense sunlight: protect your trees with bamboo mats or similar.



Size of the trees:

Larger young trees may need to be immobilized by stakes so that they do not sway and form roots faster.

