



Luther College Policy for Adoptable Trees

Memorial and recognition trees connect us to our horizons; they symbolize those who came before us and the growth that continues into the future. Indeed, the shade we enjoy today is thanks to the seed that was planted before us.

Luther's campus trees and natural areas evoke a connection to the environment and our unique sense of place. These strong roots in our landscape date back to the prairies and woodlands that remain a part of campus today. In 1910, Jens Jensen, the famous landscape architect who designed in the Prairie School style, capitalized on our location to create a plan that highlighted native plants and connected the college to the landscape rather than keep it at a distance. We continue to draw on this heritage today through recognition trees, with trees selected from a variety of species native to our savannas, woodlands, and forests.

Luther's Recognition Tree Program currently includes trees available for adoption that can be named to honor or memorialize an individual, or mark an occasion.

The college's grounds department has planted trees that are now available for adoption through the recognition program and meet the campus design plan. These trees were small at planting time, which is beneficial for establishment and more likely to result in a healthy mature tree. Once these trees grow to a reasonable stature, they are available to be 'adopted' as your recognition tree.

1. A donation of \$1,000 covers the costs for tree maintenance and site upkeep, and the cost of an engraved plaque. This gift is tax deductible, and will be receipted and acknowledged by Luther's Development Office.
2. The names of individuals or occasions honored through the recognition program are recorded in the Development Office and shared on Luther's Memorials, Tributes, and Trees web pages.
3. Donors, family members, and friends may request the Development Office to arrange a tree-blessing ceremony with College Ministries, to be held on a weekday, on a date in April through October.
4. Luther College does not guarantee survival of a recognition tree, but will provide proper care. The college will replace a recognition tree if it dies within the first five years after adoption. The college, to the extent possible, avoids planting trees on sites that may be used at a later time for another purpose.