

## Free Trees Available through PPL Electric Utilities' Community Roots Program

*Submitted by Alana Roberts, Regional Affairs Director, PPL Electric Utilities*



*On September 13, PPL partnered with the Lackawanna County Conservation District to launch the new Community Roots Program by conducting a tree planting in the City of Scranton. Pictured left to right are: Lackawanna County Conservation District's Eric Johnson, Jerry Stiles, Cheryl Nolan, Lois Sherman, Kim Nagle, and PPL Electric Utilities Regional Affairs Director Alana Roberts. Photo provided by PPL.*

PPL Electric Utilities' investments in the communities it serves have always gone beyond poles and wires. Now, we're putting down roots. The company recently unveiled Community Roots, a new program that will provide free trees to deliver environmental benefits, including cleaner air and habitat and food for birds and animals.

"With this program, we can help beautify and protect the places where we all live, work and play. We're excited to get underway," said Michael Hasel, PPL Electric Utilities' manager of environmental compliance.

Community Roots kickoff planting events were scheduled in Allentown, Scranton and Sunbury on September 13 and on Saturday, September 16 in Lancaster. In Scranton, volunteers from the conservation district, Trout Unlimited and the Lackawanna River Conservation Association planted trees at Sweeney Beach on the Lackawanna River.

The goal of the program is to give trees to county and municipal parks, environmentally focused groups and schools. In schools, Community Roots will be available to fourth-graders, provided the school they attend in PPL's service area successfully applies for trees.

Trees will be available in three types: bare-root seedlings, containers seedlings and gallon container seedlings. They will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested groups or schools can order trees online at [www.pplcommunityroots.com](http://www.pplcommunityroots.com). The ordering site also can be reached through PPL Electric Utilities' environment web page, [www.pplelectric.com/environment](http://www.pplelectric.com/environment).

Trees can be ordered now for planting in spring and fall next year. Trees for spring 2018 need to be ordered by October 25, 2017. Orders for fall 2018 must be placed by June 11, 2018. There is a one-order

limit per year, per group or school. Individual property owners are not eligible to participate in Community Roots. Quantities are limited. Further details are on the ordering page at the Community Roots website.

“Planting any tree should always be done in the right place, away from overhead power lines or underground utility lines,” Hasel said. “We also remind tree recipients to always call 811 at least three business days before they dig so any underground utilities in the digging area can be marked.”

Click here for ordering instructions: <http://www.pplcommunityroots.com/how-to-order/>