

## **UUSD Memorial Plant Policy**

**November 2022**

On occasion, UUSD receives requests to add memorial plantings to its property. To accommodate these requests, the Landscape Committee suggests the following practices be followed. They are in keeping with the UUSD Landscape Committee's philosophy of incorporating native plants which support the local ecosystem and UUSD's dedication to the UU 7<sup>th</sup> Principle.

1. Donors may select a native shrub from the list provided by the Landscape Committee, as long as space remains to add shrubs.
2. Donors may choose an *existing tree* to memorialize their loved one.
3. Donors of both shrubs and trees will understand that the shrub or tree they chose may later be used to memorialize additional members and friends.
4. Only UUSD members and friends may be memorialized by shrubs or existing trees.

Because the UUSD property already has a wonderful variety of existing old growth trees, using these trees as memorials seems appropriate and will also further enhance the community spirit that is so important at UUSD. More than one memorial can be placed on the same tree or shrub, offering the opportunity for friends and family members to be remembered together in this natural, communal way.

### **Purchase and Placement of Memorial Shrubs**

1. The donor is responsible for purchasing a shrub from the list the Landscape Committee will provide.
2. The Landscape Committee (in consultation with the Property Management Committee) will make the decision as to where a memorial shrub will be placed, considering future building and gardening plans and the habitat needs of the donated plant.
3. Shrubs will be planted by members of the UUSD Landscape Committee, with help from the donor, if offered.
4. Each memorial shrub can also be chosen in the future by others as the plant they wish to use to memorialize their loved one, with an additional appropriate marker added.

### **Choosing an Existing Tree as a Memorial**

1. Any existing tree on the UUSD property may be chosen to memorialize a UUSD member or friend.
2. An appropriate marker will be placed near the tree to identify the person being memorialized.
3. A tree already designated as a memorial tree can be chosen to memorialize additional UUSD members or friends.

### **Memorial Markers**

1. A memorial marker may be added near the new shrub or the chosen existing tree.
2. Markers will be standardized, using ones which the Landscape Committee determines are in keeping with the nature of our property.
3. Information about ordering the marker will be provided to the donor.
4. The donor is responsible for purchasing the marker and selecting the wording on the marker.

5. If the donor wishes to have the UUSD Minister speak when the memorial marker is added to the shrub or tree, the donor should make those arrangements with the Minister.

**Care of memorial plantings**

- 1) Memorial shrubs will be maintained by the Landscape Committee with the same diligence that is used in managing the rest of UUSD's gardens.
- 2) If a memorial shrub does not survive, the Landscape Committee will try to contact the donor(s) to determine if they wish to donate a replacement plant.
- 3) Trees designated as memorials will be managed appropriately, as the other trees on the UUSD property are managed.

***Approved by the Board of Trustees on November8, 2022***