

UMass Amherst American Elm Restoration in Massachusetts

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Dutch Elm Disease (DED) Resistance & the Official Tree of Massachusetts

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Open-grown American elm

American elm (*Ulmus americana*) is an iconic New England tree. After Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*) was introduced in 1930, native elm populations drastically declined. Ongoing research with resistant American elm genotypes at UMass has spurred optimism that this tree may once again be restored to prominence in our landscape.

Photo: N.J. Brazee

For Whose Benefit

American elm once lined streets and parks of Massachusetts' communities. They benefitted residents by sequestering carbon, intercepting rainfall and providing wildlife habitat.

Cooperators

- UMass Extension
- UMass Department of Environmental Conservation
- USDA Forest Service
- Mass. Urban and Community Forestry Program

Methods

Over 200 American elm seedlings, reportedly DED-resistant, were



Photo: Rick Harper

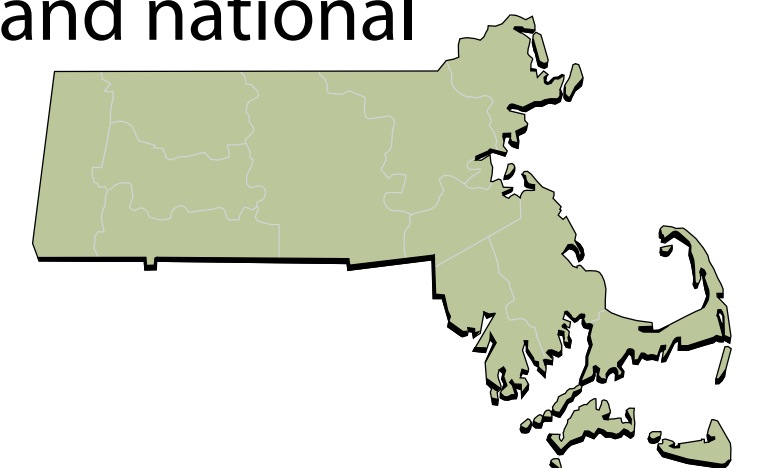
recently germinated and transplanted by UMass urban forestry students from CNS Greenhouses to the UMass Agricultural Learning Center.

Hopes

Further UMass research may avail suitable American elm specimens for planting throughout Massachusetts' communities.

American Elm Project Locations

Potential impact of this project is statewide and national in scope.



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