



**Te Uru Rākau**  
Forestry New Zealand



# One Billion Trees Fund Matariki Tu Rākau

## Commemorative Tree Planting in Your Community



### How to apply

Matariki Tu Rākau applications are open all year round until funds run out, so you can apply through the website at any time.

### Where to get advice

Please email us at [matarikiturakau@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:matarikiturakau@mpi.govt.nz) for further information or for assistance with your application.

### More information

For more information about Matariki Tu Rākau, visit [www.mpi.govt.nz/matariki-tu-rakau](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/matariki-tu-rakau) or contact us at **0800 00 83 33**



Are you thinking of planting  
trees with your community?  
You might be eligible for a grant.

New Zealand Government

December 2019

## What is Matariki Tu Rākau?

Matariki Tu Rākau is part of the One Billion Trees programme and is delivered through Te Uru Rākau (Forestry New Zealand). Through its funding of trees, it is helping people to honour members of their communities who have:

- made practical change through their efforts;
- brought distinction to New Zealand through their work;
- enhanced New Zealand's reputation in their area or activity.

## What funding options are available?

Te Uru Rākau will provide funding for trees (preferably native trees) to be planted on suitable land that is accessible to the public, including parks, places of remembrance, and marae. Applications will be considered for a planting area of less than one hectare. Te Uru Rākau will provide funding through schools, community groups, councils, the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Associations (RNZRSAs), and marae.

Funding will vary depending on the number of trees to be planted and the size of your event.

We can provide funding for:

- trees;
- a commemorative plaque;
- a contribution to costs of facilitating community-wide planting events (at Te Uru Rākau's discretion).

If your project doesn't meet the criteria, there might be some other options available to you under the One Billion Trees Fund. Make sure you get in touch to discuss your options.

## What is the One Billion Trees (1BT) Fund?

The Fund encourages an increase in tree planting to:

- improve land productivity and landscape resilience;
- reduce erosion and improve water quality;
- increase native biodiversity;
- provide diversification options for landowners;
- provide employment and boost regional development.

There are three 1BT funding options available:

- Direct Grants offer targeted funding directly to landowners wanting to plant new forests or encourage native reversion on their land.
- Partnerships offer co-funding for projects to enable increased tree planting and improve the way we grow and plant trees.
- Matariki Tu Rākau offers community-led commemorative tree planting in public spaces.

## What you need to know to apply for Matariki Tu Rākau funding

### Planning your planting

For their Matariki Tu Rākau project, local communities decide together:

- where to plant;
- what to plant;
- who will prepare and maintain the planting areas;
- how to celebrate their living commemorative as it begins, and in the future;
- how to get the local community involved.

### Suitable trees to plant

Trees should be appropriate species for healthy permanent plantings at your chosen site. We prefer native species, especially those that are regionally appropriate, but you can plant other species significant to the community.

### How many trees to plant

It may be a handful or hundreds. The Matariki Tu Rākau grant covers applications up to one hectare in size.

The number of trees planted and their location will be recorded and made publicly available as part of the Government's One Billion Trees Fund.

### Where trees should be planted

The site, design and setting is up to your local community.

The priority is that the planted trees and area remain permanently accessible to the public, and it continues to be maintained. Possible locations could be:

- in public parks, reserves or schools;
- at civic centres;
- along prominent roads and avenues;
- near existing commemoratives.

