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**Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District**

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## 2012 Fourth Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting

On October 13, 2008, the Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors voted unanimous approval of this Arbor Day project. The Board is sponsoring this five-year effort in which hundreds of Bald Cypress trees will be planted in local Indian River County subdivisions in an effort to retrofit urban storm water retention ponds.

There are many lakes, or storm water ponds in Indian River County which were built to address storm water runoff - both to prevent flooding and to let pollutants settle out before the runoff enters the canal system and ultimately enters the Indian River Lagoon. Many of these ponds are in residential areas and are not managed by the local governments. Planting vegetation, especially trees, along the shore lines of these ponds is something all residents can do to help increase the ability of the ponds to “clean” the water. In addition to improved water quality and conservation, these trees will create habitat and attract wildlife such as wading birds.

The goal of this project is to plant 100 trees (20 at each site), depending on the size of each individual pond, in five different subdivisions each year for eight years. Homeowners’ Associations will be selected to receive the trees and planting at no cost to them on a first-come-first-served basis. Once a **complete** application is received by the District office, a site visit will be performed to determine pond size, tree quantity, pond access and other criteria.

The trees will be planted during the month of May by District staff, USDA-NRCS staff and local volunteers.

Bald Cypress and Red Maple trees are also available for purchase. These trees are small ‘liners’. There is a ten-tree minimum order and orders must be prepaid and received in the District office by January 5, 2012. Please visit our new website at: [www.irccd.com/SWCD/](http://www.irccd.com/SWCD/) or call the office for more information.