



Recipient Family Sponsorship Information

TreeFest organizers have long been awed and humbled by the generosity of the community and sponsor decorators. Many go beyond beautifully and lovingly decorating a tree as a gift to someone they will never meet. They leave gifts of food and presents. This is truly touching and a demonstration of love and caring.

We have struggled with the observation that some trees and therefore some recipient families do not receive food, gift cards and gifts along with their decorated tree. The folks at Columbia County Child Development Center who coordinate matching a tree with a family do their best to assign trees with food and gifts to the neediest of the families. Many times we try to share food from under one tree to another just prior to distribution to the families.

We are not and would never ask ANY of our decorators to take on a financial commitment to provide food or gifts along with their generous donation of materials for decorations and their time spent making them and decorating the tree.

However, it seemed to make sense to us that if groups are going to place presents and food under the tree, the presents “match” the family that receives them. Additionally, it would be lovely if every family received some food donations. So we decided to pilot an option this year that allows decorators and sponsor/decorators to be matched with a recipient family and to gently suggest that all decorators include the makings of a Christmas meal (non-perishable donations only) or a gift card that can be used for food.

If you are interested in being matched with a family, please mark the appropriate box on your registration form – choosing either a small or large family size. You will be provided some family specifics which can be used to guide any gift or food purchases. That information will be provided to you in early November.

Please remember, we truly value the time, energy and money spent on your decorations and tree trimming – that alone is a wonderful gift!!