



**THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION AND THE HOME DEPOT FOUNDATION
LAUNCH NATIONAL “TREES FOR SUCCESS” TREE-PLANTING CAMPAIGN**
16 Schools Selected To Receive More Than 800 Trees Nationwide

LINCOLN, NEB., May 15, 2008 – The Arbor Day Foundation today launched a national campaign with The Home Depot® Foundation to plant more than 800 trees in schools and neighboring parks throughout the United States. The campaign, called Trees for Success, engages students, volunteers from The Home Depot and local community partners to plant approximately 50 trees at 16 schools across the country. Thousands of volunteers, schoolchildren and forestry professionals will each celebrate Trees for Success by planting 800 four-to-eight-foot tall trees on May 15.

Children and youth have the most to gain from green surroundings according to Kathleen L. Wolf, Ph.D., College of Forest Resources research director at the University of Washington. In a 2008 study by Wolf, she states that play in spaces with trees and vegetation can support children’s development of skills and cognitive abilities and lessen the symptoms of Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

“Our Trees for Success campaign will play an important role in educating students and their surrounding communities about the social, environmental and educational benefits trees provide,” said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “We are grateful to The Home Depot Foundation for its commitment to helping students learn first-hand about the many benefits of city trees.”

Sixteen schools were selected out of more than 215 applications by the Arbor Day Foundation based on need, civic and local support, student involvement, a plan for upkeep and location. Elementary and middle schools from across the United States submitted applications to be considered for Trees for Success.

The following schools and neighboring parks were selected to receive trees as part of the inaugural Trees for Success campaign:

- Albuquerque, N.M. (Madison Middle School)
- Atlanta (Centennial Place Elementary School)
- Cheyenne, Wyo. (Lebhart Elementary School)
- Dallas (Clara Oliver Elementary School)
- Detroit (Dixon Elementary School)
- Drummond, Wis. (Drummond Area School)
- Honolulu (Palolo Valley District Park)
- Kent, Ohio (Stanton Middle School)
- Los Angeles (Colonel Leon H. Washington Park)
- Memphis, Tenn. (South Park Elementary School)
- Oswego, Ill. (Fox Chase Elementary School)
- Philadelphia (Penn School)
- Richmond, Va. (New Bridge School)
- Roosevelt, N.Y. (Centennial Avenue Elementary)
- Seattle (Van Asselt Elementary School)
- Wichita, Kan. (The Independent School)

In addition to planting trees, the foundations are working with educators to raise awareness among students, parents and public officials about the many benefits trees bring to the environment, communities, schools and individuals. Educators will receive an Activity Guide to help present nature education lessons to students prior to the tree-planting events.

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“The Foundation believes that trees are essential building blocks for healthy, livable communities. Our aim through these tree-planting events is to demonstrate to students, educators, parents and public officials the positive impact trees have on our social, economic and overall well-being,” said Kelly Caffarelli, president of The Home Depot Foundation. “We joined together with the Arbor Day Foundation because both organizations believe that planting trees has the power to engage and impact the communities we serve and the environment in a tangible way.”

The Trees for Success campaign is made possible by a \$500,000 grant from The Home Depot Foundation. This is the third consecutive year The Home Depot Foundation and the Arbor Day Foundation have teamed to organize tree-planting events across the United States.

About The Home Depot Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community building goals of The Home Depot. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to building affordable homes for working families that are healthy to live in and affordable to own. To make homes healthy and affordable, the Foundation encourages developers to incorporate responsible design and use durable and quality materials to ensure that homes are more energy and water efficient, have good indoor air quality, and provide a safe and healthy space to live. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$70 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 50,000 affordable, healthy homes. For more information, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org.

About the Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation organization of nearly one million members, with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at arborday.org.

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