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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **WAKE FOREST NAMED TREE CITY USA**

**WAKE FOREST, NC – February 16, 2009** – The Town of Wake Forest has been named a Tree City USA community by The National Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forestry. It is the 30th year the Town has received this national recognition.

Wake Forest is also the recipient of a Tree City USA Growth Award for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program in the following activity areas:

- Education and Public Relations
  - publicity
  - continuing education for tree managers
- Planning and Management
  - tree inventory and analysis
  - improved ordinance
  - standards and specifications
  - wildlife habitat
  - park, open space

The prestigious Growth Award recognizes environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities. The award is designed not only to recognize achievement, but also to communicate new ideas and help the leaders of all Tree City USAs plan for improving community tree care.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Wake Forest attained Tree City USA status by meeting four standards: 1) a tree board or department; 2) a tree care ordinance, 3) a comprehensive community forestry program, and 4) an Arbor Day observance.

This year's Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for Thursday, March 12 at 10 am at the Wake Forest Community House, 133 West Owen Avenue.

For more information about this year's Arbor Day celebration or the Urban Forest Advisory Board, contact Ann Ayers at (919) 554-6143.

More information about Tree City USA can be found at [www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).

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For more information about the [Town of Wake Forest](#), contact Public Information Officer [Bill Crabtree](#) at (919) 554-6196.