



Contact: Bill Crabtree
Telephone: (919) 435-9421
Email: bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INTRODUCING WAKE FOREST'S NEW URBAN FORESTER

WAKE FOREST, NC – October 31, 2011 – Evan Keto is Wake Forest's new Urban Forester. He joined the Town Oct. 4.

As the Town's Urban Forester, Keto is responsible for planning, developing, implementing, and managing the Town's urban forestry program. In this capacity, he oversees the planting, removal, and maintenance of trees and other vegetation located on public property and rights-of-way. He is also charged with promoting public education initiatives through community-wide landscaping projects and informative seminars.

A native of Gaithersburg, Maryland, Keto comes to Wake Forest from the City of Raleigh, where he developed water conservation and affordability programs for the Public Utilities Department. Prior to that, he served as a research and teaching assistant at N.C. State University and a general scientist at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.



Keto earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of Maryland, and a Master of Science Degree in Forestry, with an Interdisciplinary Minor in Statistics and Geographic Information Systems, from N.C. State University. He is also an ISA Certified Arborist.

A recipient of the 2009 NCSU Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award and 2008 Garden Club of America Zone VI Urban Forestry Fellowship, Keto also managed a project that won the 2011 Raleigh Environmental Award and 2010 Sir Walter Raleigh Award. He was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa in 2004.

Keto's hiring marks a historic change for the Town's urban forestry program. Formerly a responsibility of the Planning Department, the initiative now operates as a division of the Parks & Recreation Department.

Keto can be contacted at (919) 435-9565 or eketo@wakeforestnc.gov.

****wakeforestnc.gov****

For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov.