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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GREAT GRASS GIVEAWAY RETURNS APRIL 28

WAKE FOREST, NC – April 23, 2012 – The Town of Wake Forest's Fourth Annual "Great Grass Giveaway" is set for Saturday, April 28, at the Public Works Operations Center, 234 Friendship Chapel Road. The event is scheduled from 7 a.m. until noon - or until the supply of Bermuda grass seed is exhausted.

The grass seed will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to arrive early because the supply of grass seed goes fast. Last year, the Town gave away over 1,200 lbs. of grass seed in less than two hours.

Wake Forest introduced the "Great Grass Giveaway" in 2009 to promote water conservation and reduce our area's demand for water. The initiative entails the Town "giving away" warm season grass seed to residents willing to convert their fescue lawns. Any Wake Forest homeowner willing to plant a new lawn or reseed his/her lawn can receive enough Bermuda grass seed to cover up to 8,000 square-feet.

Most lawns in our area are planted with fescue grass. Fescue is a cool season grass that isn't well-suited to surviving our region's long, hot summers. In order to keep it alive, fescue requires approximately one inch of water per week contributing to the depletion of our area's water supply. Bermuda grass is a more drought-tolerant variety of grass requiring approximately one-third the water of fescue.

To qualify for the free Bermuda grass seed, you must reside inside Wake Forest's corporate limits and be willing to remove the fescue grass from your lawn. The program is not designed for residents with existing Bermuda or other warm season grass seed lawns.

For more information about this year's "Great Grass Giveaway," contact Betty Pearce at (919) 435-9570 or bpearce@wakeforestnc.gov. For Bermuda grass planting instructions, visit the Town's website at www.wakeforestnc.gov/greatgrassgiveaway.aspx.

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