



News Release

P.O. Box 6015 • Columbia, MO 65205 • (573) 874-7460 • www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Release: April 24, 2007

Contact: Tammy Miller, Columbia Parks and Recreation, 874-7460

Arbor Day Events Planned

The City of Columbia will hold its 10th Annual Arbor Day program on April 27. This year's celebration will start at about 10 a.m. at Smithton Middle School and will end at 12 p.m.

Students at Smithton have been invited to participate in the celebration. Festivities will begin with a welcome and a proclamation.

Following the proclamation reading, students will rotate through educational stations that promote proper tree planting and care. The stations will focus on tree benefits, the proper place to plant a tree, tree trimming equipment and tree identification.

The Arbor Day celebration is a collaboration among the city's Parks and Recreation Forestry staff, Water and Light Department, Asplundh tree service, the City Arborist and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

In addition to the ceremony at Smithton Middle School, the city's Parks and Recreation forestry staff, Volunteer Services and volunteer TreeKeepers will give away tree seedlings. The Arbor Day tree giveaway will be held at the Bass Pro Shop on April 28. The giveaway will start at 9 a.m. and continue until the trees are gone. Forestry staff and TreeKeepers will be available to answer any questions about trees.

Columbia holds Arbor Day events each year as a Tree City USA, a recognition bestowed by the National Arbor Day Foundation to honor the city's commitment to a forestry program. Columbia has met all four standards to be a Tree City USA: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.