



Media Alert

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

Date: April 24, 2008

Contact: Tammy Miller, Parks and Recreation, 874-7465

Arbor Day Events

The City of Columbia will hold its 11th Annual Arbor Day program tomorrow, April 25. This year's celebration will start at about 9:00 a.m. at Grant Elementary School and will end at 11:30 a.m.

Students from Smithton Middle School have also 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, planting a 15-gallon container tree, and tree identification. In addition to the ceremony, Parks and Recreation forestry staff planted approximately 16 two-foot trees on school property as part of the Arbor Day Celebration.

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

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.