

Brockport Recognized as Tree City USA

For a second consecutive year, the Arbor Day Foundation has named the Village of Brockport a Tree City USA in recognition of its commitment to the preservation and advancement of urban forestry. According to Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive John Rosenow, Brockport is one of about 3,400 municipalities nationwide to earn the designation. "Residents of Brockport should take pride in the fact that they live in a community where planting and nurturing trees is a priority," Rosenow stated.

To become a Tree City USA, a community must meet four standards supporting the thoughtful planting and maintenance of trees, said village Tree Board Chairperson Margay Blackman. "A lot of work goes into cataloging the trees within the village, planning how best to care for them, and determining which new species to introduce into the community," she said. "We've been blessed in Brockport to have the support of so many volunteers to help carry forward the idea that trees provide aesthetic, environmental, economical and health benefits."

Mayor M. Connie Castañeda commended the efforts of the Tree Board, saying that recognition as a Tree City USA demonstrates members' commitment to improving their community. "The Tree Board's enthusiasm for its cause is especially noteworthy in these challenging financial times," said the mayor. "We are fortunate to have residents that serve this village simply because they care so deeply about it."

Trustee Hal S. Legg added that the Tree Board's coordination of the Brockport's annual Arbor Day events bring together the village DPW and volunteers from the College at Brockport, fraternal organizations at the college, students from the Brockport central School District, and residents to plant trees.

"I've participated in the last four annual Arbor Day plantings, and it's one of my favorite village calendar items," said Legg. "You literally dig right in with your neighbors and get your hands dirty. And when we're all done, there's something tangible that will benefit Brockport for years to come."

The Tree City program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National association of State Foresters and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service.

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