

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rochester Hills Offers Free Trees to Homeowners

New Partnership Allows Free Trees to be Planted on Private Property for the First Time

Rochester Hills, MI - Beginning on September 10th, the City of Rochester Hills is providing 200 free trees to homeowners to plant on their private property through the Arbor Day Foundation's Community Canopy program. These 200 trees will be an addition to the city's annual street tree program.

Funded through the City's Tree Fund, this program will help clean the air and water, reduce storm water runoff, sequester carbon and lower energy usage through strategic residential tree planting.

Rochester Hills has been recognized as a Tree City USA Community for 30 years. Since 1985 when the City's Forestry Program began, Rochester Hills has planted more than 10,000 trees along city roads, in city parks, and at other city properties.

"Having a strong green infrastructure starts with a strong tree canopy," states Mayor Bryan K. Barnett. "We are proud to participate in this initiative and would encourage homeowners to consider taking advantage of this new opportunity."

Residents can reserve their free trees at www.arborday.org/rochesterhills. Customers can reserve up to two trees and are expected to care for and plant them in the location chosen through the online tool. The types of trees offered include the following: Redbud, Serviceberry, White Oak, Swamp White Oak, and White Pine. All trees are approximately 1-3 feet tall and will be mailed to the resident directly.

When reserving trees, residents can use an online mapping tool that takes the guesswork out of where to plant the tree on a specific property to help maximize air, water, energy and carbon benefits. Carefully positioned trees can reduce a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling by up to 25 percent.

If you have additional questions regarding planting trees or the forestry program, call 248-656-4673.

About the Arbor Day Foundation

Founded in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees, with more than one million members, supporters and valued partners. Since 1972, more than 300 million Arbor Day Foundation trees have been planted in neighborhoods, communities, cities and forests throughout the world. Our vision is to help others understand and use trees as a solution to many of the global issues we face today, including air quality, water quality, climate change, deforestation, poverty and hunger.

As one of the world's largest operating conservation foundations, the Arbor Day Foundation, through its members, partners and programs, educates and engages stakeholders and

communities across the globe to involve themselves in its mission of planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

About the City of Rochester Hills

Established in 1984, the City of Rochester Hills is a prosperous community offering residents and businesses superior services. Voted one of the top places to live by several sources including CNN Money Magazine, Rochester Hills is committed to sustaining its position among the nation's preeminent places to live, work and raise a family. Through the city's focus on health, education, and technology; the community continues to attract forward-thinking leaders and businesses.

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