

For more information, contact:
Lauren Weyers
lweyers@arborday.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Arbor Day Foundation Recognizes Thomaston as a Tree City USA®
Thomaston earns the Tree City USA recognition for their commitment to urban forestry

LINCOLN, Nebraska (1/11/2022 12:11:06 PM) – Thomaston was named a 2021 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Thomaston achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: forming a tree board or department, creating a tree-care ordinance, having an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

"Tree City USA communities benefit from the positive effects that an urban tree canopy has year after year," said Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The trees being planted and cared for by Thomaston ensure that generations to come will enjoy a better quality of life. Additionally, participation in this program helps cultivate a sense of stewardship and pride for the trees the community plants and cares for."

Planting trees in an urban space comes with a myriad of [benefits](#) past the recognition of this program. Urban tree plantings help reduce energy consumption by up to 25%, which will reduce general energy costs and help with the overall cooling of the city as well. In addition, members of the community benefit from properly placed trees as they increase property values from 7–20%. Trees also positively affect the local ecosystem by helping to clean water and create animal habitats to encourage biodiversity.

In 2022 the Arbor Day Foundation will celebrate its 50th anniversary of inspiring people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. In this same year, the national holiday of Arbor Day will celebrate 150 years of planting trees. These anniversaries will celebrate all the trees that have been planted and preserved for generations to come. The Arbor Foundation will use this celebration to look forward and think about how we will continue to plant trees for several more generations.

More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

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 400 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.