



For Immediate Release Contact:
Danielle Crumrine
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Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest
412-362-6360
danielle@pittsburghforest.org

Pittsburgh to Celebrate National NeighborWoods Month

Sponsored by The Home Depot Foundation

Pittsburgh, Pa. – Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest today announced that they will celebrate National NeighborWoods Month by hosting several events. These events are some of more than 200 greening, educational, and training efforts throughout the country being promoted during October as part of NeighborWoods Month. NeighborWoods Month is a national campaign of the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT). Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest is a member of ACT's NeighborWoods Network.

"It's great to be focusing on the health and livability benefits of trees at a time when other organizations are doing so as well," said Danielle Crumrine, Executive Director of Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest. "Part of our goal is to draw attention to the good work being done at the grassroots level all across the country to improve urban and community forests."

Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest's celebration will take place as follows:

10/1-10/31/07 City-wide Photo Project of residents hugging their favorite tree

10/5/07- 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Tree Tender Celebration & Lab at Baum Grove Park in Friendship

10/12/07- 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Urban Tree Planting: Making Large Shade Trees Sustainable Symposium at Penn State Greater Allegheny

10/1-10/31 Tree planting at various elementary schools

More information at: <http://calendar.neighborwoodsmoonth.org>

"Having local organizations like Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest participate in National NeighborWoods Month helps us show the cumulative effect of a burgeoning urban and community forestry movement," said ACT Executive Director Alice Ewen Walker. Founded in 1993, the Alliance for Community Trees is a national coalition of 140 nonprofit organizations engaged in urban and community forestry in 39 states and Canada. Its members are dedicated to grassroots community greening, public education, policymaking, job training, urban design, and other initiatives that support better awareness of the connections between trees and people.

NeighborWoods Month is sponsored through a generous grant from The Home Depot Foundation.

"National NeighborWoods Month offers a unique opportunity for people to understand the contributions of trees to the health, beauty and livability of their communities," said Kelly Caffarelli, Vice President of The Home Depot Foundation. "By partnering with ACT and local NeighborWoods organizations like Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest, The Foundation is able to further its goals of investing in the overall health and success of our communities."

About The Home Depot Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community building goals of The Home Depot by providing additional resources to assist nonprofit organizations building affordable, efficient, and healthy homes throughout the United States and Canada. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to creating healthy, livable communities through the integration of affordable housing built responsibly and the preservation and restoration of community trees. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted more than \$50 million to nonprofit and government organizations throughout North America. In 2006 alone, projects supported by the foundation built 9,000 units of housing and planted 300,000 trees. For more information, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org.

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