
Orange County Celebrates Florida Arbor Day

Contributed by Marjorie Holt
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Orange County has been awarded the designation of "Tree City USA" and will be planting a native to celebrate Arbor Day.

ORANGE COUNTY CELEBRATES FLORIDA ARBOR DAY

Orange County, FL – On Tuesday, January 15 at 8:30 a.m., Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs and the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will observe Florida Arbor Day by planting a native tree in the Florida Friendly Landscaping Demonstration Garden located outside the County Administration Center (corner of Jackson Street & Rosalind Avenue). After the brief ceremony, the BCC will proclaim Friday, January 18, 2013 as Florida Arbor Day in Orange County.

The County is proud to have once again been awarded a "Tree City USA" designation. Orange County has earned this esteemed designation every year since 2006. To qualify, a community must have a tree protection ordinance and dedicated funds for the care and planting of trees. Dana Sussmann, from the Florida Forest Service, will present the award at the beginning of the January 15th commission meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Florida Arbor Day takes place on the third Friday in January as winter is deemed the best time to plant trees in the sunshine state. Mayor Jacobs encourages Orange County citizens to plant a tree to benefit their community and future generations.

Celebrating Arbor Day helps educate the public about the value of trees. Trees moderate climate, improve air quality by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, beautify our neighborhoods, increase property values, help enhance economic vitality and provide habitat for wildlife.