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Arbor Day Foundation Names Northampton Tree City USA, Growth Award Winner

The City of Northampton was recently recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation with Tree City USA status for 2016, this is the City's 10th year receiving this award. Tree City USA status is given in honor of the City's commitment to effective urban forest management. The City's multi-year commitment to planning, protecting and growing the public shade tree canopy yielded an additional award – Tree City USA Growth Award. The Growth Award highlights innovative programs and projects as well as increased commitment of resources for urban forestry.

“With the increased efforts of Northampton Tree Warden Richard C. Parasiliti, Jr., the Public Shade Tree Commission, and the citizen volunteers of Tree Northampton, I am so pleased that the City is being recognized for its investment in our public trees”, said Mayor David J. Narkewicz. “The benefit provided by protecting our tree canopy is seen in many ways including, energy cost savings, traffic calming, stormwater management, cleaner air, and climate change mitigation.”

Richard C. Parasiliti, Jr., Tree Warden, echoed Mayor Narkewicz's sentiments and added, “Both of these awards would not be possible without the continued support of the Mayor, the City Council, Public Shade Tree Commission, Tree Northampton, and the countless volunteers that have planted over 250 plus trees in the last several years. This community effort shows that we are committed to continuing to support a healthy, sustainable urban forestry program that will provide benefits for generation to come.”



(Pictured left to right: Julie Coop DCR Urban & Community Forester, Leo Roy DCR Commissioner, Richard Parasiliti, Jr., City of Northampton Tree Warden, Lilly Lombard, Chair Northampton Public Shade Tree Commission, Marilyn Castriotta, member Northampton Public Shade Tree Commission, and Priscilla Geigis Deputy DCR Commissioner)