

# Trees are Treemendous to the City of Udall

Nebraska City, NE – The City of Udall has once again been recognized by the Kansas Forest Service and the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA Community. Ceremonies were held in Nebraska City to pay tribute and recognize the 102 Kansas Communities that are actively managing their community forest. The City of Udall has been recognized as a Tree City USA for two years.

To qualify for Tree City USA a community must designate a tree board or department by municipal ordinance to operate the program, have an annual budget of \$2 per capita and participate in Arbor Day with a proclamation and tree planting ceremony.

“People tend to take trees for granted. That’s why the City of Udall accomplishments in the Tree City USA program are so important. Collectively, Kansas Tree City USA Communities spent over \$17.6 million in 2011 managing Kansas’ community forest by planting over 10,652 trees, pruning 55,651 and removing over 10,341 dead or defective trees,” said Tim McDonnell, Community Forestry Program Coordinator for the Kansas Forest Service.

Research indicates that Kansas’ community forestry is at risk. Only one tree is being planted for every four removed. The national trend reveals that urban areas are expanding by 2.2 million acres each year. The values that trees provide are generally not considered as urban expansion occurs. Consequently valuable green space is lost each year.

“Communities like the City of Udall are making a difference but they need additional support with funding and volunteers,” he said. “Only when community-wide involvement exists will positive change occur in the present trends.” McDonnell encourages the people of the City of Udall to take the time to thank the volunteers who serve on the city’s Tree Board and to ask the simple question “How can I help?”.

Individuals or organizations interested in further information about trees, the City of Udall Tree Board or what you may do to help with community forestry in the City of Udall may contact Jim Smith, Chairman, City of Udall Tree Board.



Tim McDonnell  
Community Forestry Coordinator  
Kansas Forest Service  
316-788-0492