



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mike Cusimano
Phone: 373-2150

Deadline for Neighborwoods Grant Applications is May 30
Keeping Greensboro Green, One Neighborhood at a Time

GREENSBORO, NC -- (February 16, 2009) – Greensboro neighborhoods are invited to apply for the 2009 NeighborWoods Grant Program now through the end of May. The program, which began in 2004, provides trees to Greensboro neighborhoods to help replace those that have been damaged or lost through development, storms or illness.

NeighborWoods, a partnership between the City of Greensboro, Greensboro Beautiful Inc. and the NC Cooperative Extension Service for Guilford County selects one neighborhood each year and works with residents to plant trees in their community. The deadline for submitting applications is May 30. Applications are available on the City's Web site at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Planning/forestry/programs/>.

The City and Greensboro Beautiful, Inc. are encouraging neighborhoods to participate because trees are an inexpensive way to help improve the environment. Not only do they remove pollutants from the air and water, reduce stormwater runoff, buffer noise and increase property value, but they can also stimulate economic development by attracting new businesses and tourism.

A study conducted in 2001 indicates that Greensboro lost 18 percent of its tree canopy between 1984 and 2000. The NeighborWoods program plays a critical role in the reforestation of Greensboro. By working together, the City, Greensboro Beautiful, and neighborhoods can help improve our environment and build stronger neighborhoods.

Past NeighborWoods grants have been responsible for the planting of hundreds of trees in several neighborhoods throughout Greensboro. Let your neighborhood be the next one to "Help Keep Greensboro Green" by submitting an application for this grant.

Funding for the NeighborWoods program is provided by private donations made to the Greensboro Beautiful Tree Fund. If you are interested in providing funds to purchase trees and mulch for the program, call 373-2199. For more information, contact Mike Cusimano, Urban Forester, at 373-2150.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to build an increased quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment where inclusion, diversity, and trust are valued. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2700 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City of Greensboro is governed by a council-manager form of government where a mayor and eight council members act as the legislative body. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov.

#