



## Environment



Prince George's County, Maryland

### For the Love of Trees!

**For Immediate Release: 4/22/2015 12:00 AM**

**Contact: Lauren A. Kinard, Public Information Specialist, Department of the Environment, (301) 883-5957**

*Prince George's County participates in the national celebration of Arbor Day*

**LARGO, MD** – The Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) will celebrate national **Arbor Day** with the environmental stewards of Fort Washington Forest Elementary School and County environmental partners on **Friday, April 24, 2015 at 9 a.m.** During the celebration, students in kindergarten through fifth grade will plant around the school's campus a total of 49 trees and 21 shrubs. For their efforts, the students will help Fort Washington Forest Elementary School earn its "green school" classification. The County will recognize the school's ongoing commitment to sustainability with the presentation of a special proclamation. Prince George's County will also receive its 31<sup>st</sup> consecutive TREE CITY USA Award.

Prince George's County's annual Arbor Day event is sponsored by Prince George's County Beautification Committee. The committee partners with DoE, the Department of Public Works and Transportation, the Office of Central Services, MDNR's Forest Service, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Prince George's County Master Gardeners/University of Maryland Extension, the Neighborhood Design Center, the Prince George's County Soil Conservation District, the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department and Prince George's County Public Schools to conduct other greening and beautification activities throughout the County.

The County's 2015 Arbor Day celebration is held in conjunction with DoE's Earth Month 2015 festivities, which include various community and neighborhood cleanups, the Brown Bag Environmental Film Fest, the County's Green SPOTlight and Earth Day Facts social media campaign and Mulch Madness.

Arbor Day is an annual observance that promotes tree planting and care, celebrates all the benefits of trees to the environment including cleaning the air and water, beautifying neighborhoods, providing homes for wildlife, conserving energy and preventing soil erosion.

To schedule a press tour of the school's campus and interviews with County officials and environmental partners, contact Lauren Kinard at (301) 883-5957.

**WHO:**

**Adam Ortiz**, Director, Prince George's County Department of the Environment

**R. Calvert Steuart**, Chairman, Prince George's County Beautification Committee

**Horace Henry**, Southern Region Coordinator, Urban & Community Forestry, Maryland Department of Natural Resources'  
Forest Service

**Ezekiel Bloyce**, Principal, Fort Washington Elementary School

**WHEN:**

Friday, April 24, 2015

9 a.m.

**WHERE:**

Fort Washington Forest Elementary School

1300 Fillmore Road

Fort Washington, MD

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