



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**Contact Information:**

Richard Nield

(510) 583-8907

[Richard.Nield@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Richard.Nield@hayward-ca.gov)

### **Arbor Day Foundation Names Hayward Tree City USA**

Hayward, CA was named a 2015 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> year Hayward has earned the national designation. Hayward achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Through a partnership between the City of Hayward, Hayward Area Recreation District and the Hayward Unified School District, Hayward will be celebrating Arbor Day on May 26, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Eldridge Elementary School. The celebration will include the donation and planting of several crepe myrtle and redwood trees. The State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection will present the City with their 30<sup>th</sup> consecutive "Tree City USA" award as recognition for excellence in managing its urban forest.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers, and committed citizens in communities like Hayward make smart investments in urban forests," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. More information on the program is available at [www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA). This program would not be possible without donations from many businesses and the support and participation of many governmental agencies, community groups and small businesses. Anyone interested in more information can call the City of Hayward's Landscape Division at (510) 583-8906.

**About the Arbor Day Foundation:** The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and education organization of one million members, with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

**Maintenance Services Department  
Landscape Maintenance Division**

16 Barnes Court, Suite 3 • Hayward • CA • 94544  
Tel: 510-583-8906 • Fax: 510-537-0436 • Website: [www.hayward-ca.gov](http://www.hayward-ca.gov)