



WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISORS

P.O. BOX 800, 960 WENTZ ROAD
BLUE BELL, PA 19422-1835
(610) 277-2400
FAX: (610) 277-
2209

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information contact: Joseph T. Steuer – Chair of the
Whitpain Township Shade Tree Commission at (215) 243-5277

**WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP RECEIVES TREE CITY USA AWARD AND
EARNS STERLING AWARD DESIGNATION FROM NATIONAL
ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION**

Blue Bell, PA – April 6, 2009. “Whitpain Township has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation” Shade Tree Chair Joseph T. Steuer announced today. “It is the fourteenth consecutive year Whitpain has received this national recognition,” he added.

Steuer also announced that “Whitpain is the recipient of its tenth consecutive Tree City USA Growth Award, which is an added level of recognition that Tree City USA communities can achieve.” He added: “This year is particularly significant since earning ten Growth Awards designates Whitpain Township as a Sterling Community. Only two other Pennsylvania communities have ever been designated a Sterling Community by the National Arbor Day Foundation.”

Whitpain earned its 2008 Growth Award for completing three significant projects:

- Partnered with a local community homeowners’ association to remove diseased and dangerous trees situated under power lines along a major road, and replaced them on a 2 for 1 ratio with more appropriate flowering pear trees that beautified a major corridor in Whitpain Township.
- Planted a memorial tree at a local elementary school providing a living memorial in remembrance of deceased former students.
- Incorporated trees into the science curriculum (grades four through six) of a local elementary school and served as a guest lecturer at one of the school’s science classes.

Steuer added: “As chair of the Whitpain Township Shade Tree Commission, I am very proud of our Tree City USA designation for the fourteenth year and Growth Award achievement for the tenth time. I am delighted that we are only the third community throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to earn the National Arbor Day Foundation’s Sterling award. It demonstrates our commitment to maintaining and preserving the natural beauty of this Township. Whitpain has an abundance of trees of magnificent size and significant age. The Commission hopes these awards create a public awareness that will help preserve and protect all of the trees in our Township and the surrounding communities.”

The public is invited to attend the Township’s annual Earth and Arbor Day program at which time these awards will be presented. It is scheduled for Thursday, April at 10:00 AM in Prophecy Creek Park.

The Shade Tree Commission is charged with custody and control of trees in Whitpain Township. The Commission’s responsibilities include planting, removing, maintaining and protecting trees located on Township public properties. The Commission also conducts programs that increase awareness of the value of trees and provides information for their proper care and maintenance. The Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Whitpain Township Administration Building. The public is welcome to attend these meetings.