

PRESS RELEASE

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15 December, 2006

WOODBINE RECEIVED TREE GRANT

Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that the Borough of Woodbine was successful in the second round of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry 2006 Cool Cities Community Stewardship Program funding and has received a grant in the amount of \$25,000 which will leverage a \$35,724 tree-planting project. Woodbine was the only municipality to receive a full 5 out of 5 on the grant scoring.

The Borough was also the recipient of a \$25,000 Cool Cities grant awarded earlier this year. That tree-planting grant was used to provide sixty-four diverse shade trees as provided for in the Borough's streetscape project specifications, for a total tree-planting project of \$41,000. To date, Woodbine has leveraged, with in-kind contributions, \$50,000 in Cool Cities grant funding into a nearly \$77,000 tree-planting initiative.

The Cool Cities program is grant-funding provided by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Clean Energy Program and administered by the New Jersey Forest Service's Community Forestry Program. The purpose of the program is to assist municipalities in promoting energy conservation in residential areas through tree plantings, helping to address tree resource issues and management goals that are priorities in the municipal, state-approved, Community Forestry Management Plan. Woodbine is currently in year three of its second five-year plan.

Phase II of Woodbine's Neighborhood Tree Planting Program is designed to incorporate eight different types of trees into various sections of the community, for a total of fifty-eight additional trees to fill open spaces that will then provide a more complete canopy of shade for homes throughout the remainder of Woodbine. It will complement the aesthetic public improvements being financed through other grants being financed through other grant programs and provide a comprehensive awning throughout the Borough. There are two energy conservation benefits that will be achieved by a tree planting project of this nature. First is that homes in the project area will gradually experience a greater level of shade coverage as the new trees grow and mature. Second, trees release water vapor that helps cool the air and the increase in the number of trees by 60% as proposed in the landscaping plan will greatly add to this cooling.

"This present program perfectly complements our streetscape initiative, while providing our residents with the environmental benefits of shadetrees for energy conservation," noted Mayor Pikolycky. "In addition to the earlier Cool Cities grant, Woodbine has received two grants of \$2000 each for the writing of its Community Forestry Management Plans as well as previous grants totaling approximately \$50,000 for tree planting and management activities. We will be submitting an application for a FY07 CSIP grant to address additional forestry management issues such as tree trimming and removal and stump grinding as per our Community Forestry Management plan at the end of this month."