



News Release

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Taylorsville City Awarded "Tree City USA" and Celebrates with Arbor Day Activity

Russ Wall

Mayor

Dama Barbour
Ernest Burgess
Larry Johnson
Kristie S. Overson
Jerry W. Rechtenbach

Council Members

Taylorsville has earned the designation of "Tree City USA" and elected officials will be accepting this award at the city council meeting on Apr. 25 at 6:30 p.m. As part of the celebration, Taylorsville residents are participating with employees of JetBlue Airways in a "Go Green" Arbor Day event on Sat., Apr. 28 at 9 a.m. by planting trees and getting community garden boxes built for the new Community Gardens at City Center.

When Mayor Russ Wall was elected, one of his goals was to become part of "Tree City USA." "We knew our budget was tight, and we worried about the cost to accomplish this," said Wall. "Luckily we were able to trade volunteer hours with monetary investment to qualify. We couldn't have accomplished this without our great volunteers."

Some of those volunteers come from the city's Leisure Activities Recreation and Parks (LARP) committee. Chair Rhetta McIlff and other committee members applied for grants, found discounts on trees, and garnered hundreds of volunteers to meet the requirements for "Tree City USA."

"Interest in Salt Lake County's "Million Trees" program kicked off several of the tree projects in Taylorsville," said McIlff. "Residents and businesses who plant trees on their property help the city meet the goal of planting 60,000 trees in a 10 year period."

Volunteers obtained trees and planted them in six of the nine elementary schools in Taylorsville. Trees were also planted in conjunction with the city's Redwood Road beautification project, and dozens of volunteers work along the Jordan River cleaning out unhealthy trees.

One of the requirements of the "Tree City USA" award is to do an annual Arbor Day event. JetBlue employees and Taylorsville residents are participating in the "Go Green" event, held on Sat., Apr. 28 at 9 a.m. at Taylorsville City Hall - 2600 W. Taylorsville Blvd (5320 S.). During this event volunteers will build new garden boxes for a Community Garden and over 30 trees will be planted there. Taylorsville residents can pay a small fee to use the Community Garden, which will be the second one in the city. To reserve a space, residents can call Toni Lenning at 801-414-4192.

JetBlue is committed to the cities it serves through support and alignment with not-for-profit organizations that focus on children, education, communities and the environment. Through a variety of programs and activities, JetBlue crewmembers are encouraged to help make an impact and inspire greatness in others through a variety of programs and activities while enriching the lives of individuals and communities across the airline's network.

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