



March 26, 2013

Mayor Frank North  
One West Maple Avenue  
Merchantville, NJ 08109

Handwritten initials, possibly "JCN", in blue ink.

Dear Tree City USA Supporter,

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation, I write to congratulate Merchantville on earning recognition as a 2012 Tree City USA. Residents of Merchantville ought to be proud to live in a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority.

Your community joins more than 3,400 Tree City USAs, with a combined population of 140 million. 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.

As a result of your commitment to effective urban forest management, you already know that trees are vital to the public infrastructure of cities and towns throughout the country, providing numerous environmental, social and economic benefits. In fact, trees are the one piece of community infrastructure that actually increases in value over time.

We hope you are excited to share this accomplishment. Enclosed in this packet is a press release for your convenience as you prepare to contact local media and the public. If you wish to receive an electronic version of the release, please email Sean Barry, Director of Media Relations at [sbarry@arborday.org](mailto:sbarry@arborday.org) and we will reply with a copy within one business day.

State foresters are responsible for the presentation of the Tree City USA flag and other materials. We will forward information about your awards to Todd Wyckoff in your state forester's office to coordinate presentation. It would be especially appropriate to make the Tree City USA award a part of your community's Arbor Day ceremony.

Again, we celebrate your commitment to the people and trees of Merchantville and thank you for helping to create a healthier planet for all of us.

Best Regards,

Handwritten signature of John Rosenow in blue ink.

John Rosenow  
Chief Executive

cc: Robert Paulson

enclosure