



For Immediate Release

Contact: William J. Aiello
(716) 376-5615

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION NAMES OLEAN TREE CITY USA

March 2, 2016—Olean--The City of Olean is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as a 2015 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.

"This is the thirtieth year that the City has received this designation," said Olean Forester Sue Cooper. "And in that time the City has planted approximately 2,000 trees."

This spring, with the help of National Grid, the City will continue to replenish the trees at Mount View Cemetery for Arbor Day. "National Grid has helped us with this project for three years in a row and this year we plan to plant eight new trees including the Japanese Zelkova, which is both an excellent tree for shade and has a beautiful color in the fall," Sue Cooper added. "After this planting, the City's partnership with the National Grid will result in twenty-four new trees."

"When it comes to urban forest management, Olean has an excellent record," William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, said. "Our elected officials and residents have realized the importance of trees in the City, and have taken the necessary steps to preserve and enhance our tree population for thirty years straight, that is an accomplishment of which to be very proud."

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. Olean 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.

More information about the project is available at www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/.