



Press Release

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For Immediate Publication:

Beautification Pilot Project

Plainfield, IL -- The Village of Plainfield is pleased to announce the commencement of the Beautification Pilot Project. In partnership with Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202, the Village has developed a plan to transform Village streets into attractive, landscaped boulevards.

Twenty-five service learning students from the Plainfield School District will have the opportunity for hands-on education as they assist the Forestry Division of the Plainfield Public Works Department in pruning and transplanting a plant nursery valued around \$30,000.00.

After the Village Board's approval of the Green Village initiative in November of 2007, the School District approached the Village to see if there would be interest in forming a Beautification partnership. Previously, the School District was given a grant by British Petroleum (BP) to plant a nursery which would then be distributed around the community in a Village Beautification Project. The School District's proposal complemented the Village's Beautification Plan (part of the Green Village initiative) and a partnership was formed.

The Forestry Division of the Plainfield Public Works Department will provide landscaping and pruning lessons to service learning students at Plainfield Academy. Once the cold weather passes and the students have pruned the nursery, the students and Forestry Division will distribute the trees and native plants on Van Dyke Road, Drauden Road, and Ridge Road.

The Village Staff has created detailed landscape plans based on the nursery's plant inventory to enhance portions of the Village's medians. There will be several hundred trees, shrubs, and flowers planted to provide Village residents and visitors with scenic travel routes.

The partnership benefits both the Village of Plainfield and Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202. The Village will benefit by having beautified public streets that add character and beauty to the community. The additional parkway trees and landscaping will create attractive tree canopies and landscaping year-round. The School District will benefit by having hands-on education for service learning students. Participating students will be able to take pride in their work when passing by Village streets and will also have a feeling of connection to the community because they will be able to say, "I planted those trees" as they continue to mature, beautifying the Village. The Beautification Pilot Project is a great example of two government bodies working together to achieve a common goal.

For more information on this exciting project, please contact Sara Leach with the Village of Plainfield at (815) 439-2824, Tod Schnowske with the Plainfield School District at (815) 439-5521, or Colleen Scofield with the Plainfield School District at (815) 439-5521.