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News Release
For Immediate Release
April 14, 2015
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Utah's Urban Forestry Program Adds Seven New "Tree City USA" Communities

(Salt Lake City) –At an awards ceremony held at the University of Utah on Wednesday, April 15th, the towns/cities of Elk Ridge, Delta, Fairview, Minersville, Monroe, Mount Pleasant and Saratoga Springs will be recognized for outstanding work and planning in their urban forestry programs. The event will also recognize several of Utah's 89 Tree City USA communities for innovative tree initiatives and projects that have earned them Tree City Growth Awards.

Where: University of Utah Officer's Club, 150 Fort Douglas Blvd.
(The U of U will be celebrating their first full year as a Tree *Campus* USA.)

When: Wednesday, April 15 at 12pm

With the new additions this year, 68% of Utah's population lives inside a Tree City USA community. These 89 cities/towns have invested over \$9 million in trees and tree related activities in 2014 alone. The Tree City USA program serves as a baseline for communities to develop a strong forestry program. Once a community achieves Tree City USA status they are eligible for grants and advanced technical assistance from the State's Urban Forestry Program.

Any Utah community can become certified as a Tree City USA. The requirements are:

- Maintain a city/town tree board or forestry department
- Spend at least \$2/capita on trees or tree related activities
- Pass a city tree ordinance
- Celebrate Arbor Day annually

More information is available at: www.forestry.utah.gov

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