

April 23, 2008

Sarasota County plants a forestry partnership with G.WIZ

Sarasota County and representatives from the City of Sarasota and G.WIZ Science Museum will celebrate National Arbor Day 2008 with a ceremonial tree planting at 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 25, on the west side of the museum at 1001 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota. The ceremonial oak is one of six new shade trees surrounding the museum's Children's Recreation Lawn that mark a new partnership between the museum and Sarasota County's Urban Forestry program.

"We are very excited about partnering with GWIZ to further children's education about the relationship between natural resources and society's growth," said Sarasota County Urban Forestry Manager Demetra McBride. "GWIZ has a committed and inspiring administrator, with the intelligence and creativity to give our community a competitive edge in the rapidly expanding science and design of urban ecosystems."

G.WIZ is a member of the City of Sarasota's multi-use recreation trail, so Interim Executive Director Cheryl Burstein is excited about participating in the Arbor Day celebration. "We are looking forward to more of our local 'feathered' friends building their homes in our new trees for all of our visitors to enjoy," said Burstein.

As part of the event, Sarasota County's tree maintenance contractor, Lewis Tree, is donating its service to remove exotic Brazilian pepper plants in the mangrove walk that defines the property.

For more information about the event or Sarasota County's urban forestry program, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for Demetra McBride.