



For Immediate Release

Contact:

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ACT Announces Volunteer of the Year Winner

College Park, Md. (March 22, 2010)- In collaboration with ServiceNation, the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is pleased to announce this year's national Volunteer of the Year, Bill Pardue, who volunteers with Trees Atlanta.

Bill Pardue impressed the judges with his clear passion for the cause and loyalty to helping build the organization so that it can spread its mission. While his commitment was evident, the judges also got a sense of the fun and togetherness that he brings to tree planting (by organizing social get-togethers, smiling, and making other people happy). He impressed reviewers as grounded and savvy (ex. he is plugged into other key efforts like building Atlanta's Beltline, which is the biggest new urban parks project in the country), and special note was taken that he is both a volunteer and a donor.

Finalists:

First Runner-Up: Matt Czajkowski, Friends of the Urban Forest (San Francisco, CA)

Second Runner-Up: Otis Marechoux, Casey Trees (Washington, DC)

Gene Desantis, Parks and People Foundation (Baltimore, MD)

Crystal Adams, TreePeople (Los Angeles, CA)

Andree Glenn, Vollintine Evergreen- Neighbors for Trees (Memphis, TN)

Bob Moody, Citizens for a Better South Florida (Miami, FL)

David Fainer, Goleta Valley Beautiful (Goleta, CA)

About the Volunteer of the Year Award

The award highlights inspirational accounts of volunteers in action, and nominations are open to any individual (board member, community organizer, pro bono consultant, etc.) whose volunteer efforts have made a contribution to urban forestry by improving community trees and the neighborhoods which they are in. ACT seeks volunteers who model the ideals of stewardship, giving, professionalism, and leadership. One winner is awarded a trip to Washington, DC to meet with his/ her Member of Congress.

About Alliance for Community Trees (ACT)

ACT is dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees. With 160 grassroots affiliates in 40 states, ACT engages volunteers to take action to improve the environment where 80% of people live -- in our cities, towns, and villages. Together, ACT affiliates are creating clean air, green streets, and healthy neighborhoods, and have-to-date- planted and cared for 15 million trees with help from 10.7 million volunteer hours. www.actrees.org



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About Trees Atlanta

Trees Atlanta is a nationally recognized citizens group dedicated to protecting and improving Atlanta's urban forest by planting, conserving and educating. Since 1985, Trees Atlanta has planted and distributed more than 75,000 trees. To give, plant or protect:

www.treesatlanta.org, 404-522-4097.

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