

## FOUR VIEWS OF ARBOR DAY

### Friday, April 24, 2009, State Celebration at Tewksbury



Pictured above are Delanco Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick and the Delanco Shade Tree Commission Members accepting its first annual Tree City USA Award



Certificate received by the past and present Mayors for their donation of an American Elm for future generations to enjoy. Pictured are present Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick and former Mayors Joan Hinkle and Janice Lohr. Also contributing to the cost were Victor Vitterino, Phil Jenkins and Shirley Rossi

### Saturday, April 25, 2009, Local Celebration at Delanco



Pictured above, left to right are: Robert Hinkle, Dave Atkinson, Mark Lacina, Janice Lohr, Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick, Carl Taraschi, Deputy-Mayor Joan Hinkle, Barbara Towel, and Mark Schmitt with daughter Megan, planting two American Elms at Delanco's West Avenue and Burlington St.



Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick welcomes all to Tree City, U.S. A.

The date is April 10, 1872 when Nebraskan, J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper editor and Secretary of the Nebraska Territory, celebrated the first Arbor Day in recognition of the value of trees: cooling shade in the summer, a place of refuge for animals, an agent to cleanse the air, stabilization of soil to protect from wind and water erosion and the natural esthetics of their beauty. From Nebraska's first declaration of Arbor Day, all 50 states and many other countries now celebrate Arbor Day. Here in Delanco, that world-wide message is brought home through the efforts of its supportive township government and its active Shade Tree Commission. Through substantial efforts of William Matulewicz, the Commission's past chairman, and Barbara Towel, the Commission's secretary, Delanco has received the designation of Tree City USA. It is a coveted award recognizing the substantial commitment Delanco makes to its citizens of the future through its aggressive care and planting of trees.

On April 24, Delanco Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick, and Deputy-Mayor Joan Hinkle, together with Shade Tree Commission members, David Atkinson, Mark Lacina, William Matulewicz, and Carl Taraschi attended a statewide Arbor Day award ceremony at the Christie Hoffmann Park in Tewksbury, New Jersey where Delanco was awarded the Tree City USA plaque. The following day the plaque was proudly brought home and displayed at the intersection of West Avenue and Burlington Street where on April 25, Delanco planted two American Elm trees in honor of Arbor Day. One tree was provided with funds from the Shade Tree Commission's budget and the other tree was donated by the Delanco past and present Mayors: Kate Fitzpatrick, Joan Hinkle and Janice Lohr and donors Victor Vitterino, Phil Jenkins and Shirley Rossi. The holes were dug courtesy of William Matulewicz, water was generously supplied by the residents at 2901 Burlington Avenue and by Janice Lohr and her husband with their 50 gallon portable water tank.

The essence of Arbor Day is not a celebration of the past, but a commitment to our future generations. The Shade Tree Commission offers a tree donation program for all who would like to honor or memorialize a loved one. All commemorative trees will have a plaque noting the reason for the donation. If you would like to donate a tree you may do so by going on-line to <http://www.delancotownship.com>, scroll down and click on "Township Boards & Commissions" go to Shade Tree and then click on Action\_Request\_Form\_08.pdf, complete the information, check off "New Tree" and submit it. A member of the Commission will contact you with the types of trees available and costs.