



## City of **Punta Gorda**, Florida

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**April 17, 2015**

### **CITY OF PUNTA GORDA 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION**

The City of Punta Gorda encourages you to join us in celebrating Arbor Day on Friday, April 24, 2015 at Laishley Park in downtown Punta Gorda from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Activities will include the “Knowledge Trail” - interactive stations each hosted by the City of Punta Gorda Urban Design Division, Utilities Department, Public Works Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Florida Forest Service, Punta Gorda Garden Club, and The Mosaic Company with The Mosaic Express; tree planting ceremony and possibly a “surprise” visit from Smokey Bear.

The City of Punta Gorda has been named a Tree City USA for the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive year by the sponsoring group, the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service. The award recognizes the City’s commitment to effective community forestry programs.

In addition to being recognized as a Tree City USA, the City of Punta Gorda has once again been awarded the prestigious Tree City Growth Award 6 different times for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program in the areas of education and public relations, continual education of forestry staff, community partnership and land-use planning coordination. The Tree City USA Growth Award was created to recognize environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities.

This year’s Arbor Day Celebration is made possible through a grant from the Florida Forest Service and a generous \$5000.00 donation from The Mosaic Company.

For more information on Punta Gorda’s Arbor Day Celebration contact the City of Punta Gorda Urban Design Division at 941-575-3372 or [urbandesign@pgorda.us](mailto:urbandesign@pgorda.us)

*Prepared by:*

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