

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of the County Executive



PUBLIC SAFETY

“Ensuring a Safe
Harford”

EDUCATION

“Preparing Now,
Building for the Future”

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

“Governing Smarter”

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

“Growing and Sustaining
Harford’s Prosperity”

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

“Protecting Our
Environment”

QUALITY LIVING

“Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 26, 2009

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Harford Joins Baltimore County to Promote Growing Home Campaign *National Award-Winner Tree Planting Initiative*

(Bel Air, MD) - - Harford County Executive David R. Craig today joined Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, Jr. to announce the expansion of the Growing Home Campaign to Harford County. The Growing Home Campaign, now in its fourth year, is a national award-winning program for homeowners.

The growing home program is an innovative public-private partnership between Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Harford County, nearly 50 local retail nurseries and garden centers and homeowners. The purpose of the program is to increase the overall tree canopy on private property in the Baltimore area. With the addition of Baltimore City and Harford County to the program, the Growing Home Campaign will reach over 1.6 million residents in the region and encourages them to plant a tree on their property.

“We are very pleased to welcome our Harford County neighbors into this easy and effective effort to increase the tree coverage in our communities,” County Executive Jim Smith stated. “So far, Baltimore City and Baltimore County residents have planted more than 4,000 new trees through the Growing Home program and we have high hopes that Harford Countians will follow suit,” Smith added.

Commenting on Harford County’s participation in the Growing Home Campaign, County Executive David R. Craig stated, “We are pleased to partner with Baltimore County and local nurseries and garden centers to provide incentives for our homeowners to plant trees. Simply stated, planting trees not only benefits homeowners and adds value to their property, but it is good for the environment as well.”

Homeowners can receive a **\$10** Growing Home tree coupon from the Growing Home brochure which is widely available from the City of Baltimore, as well as Baltimore and Harford County governments and the Growing Home Campaign website at www.growinghome.info. The website also contains helpful tips on how to properly plant trees, tree species selection, and maintenance.

(more)

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Additionally, Harford County Public Libraries have displays and information pertaining to the program and the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension office also been distributing Growing Home Campaign materials through local outreach functions and gardening classes.

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“Preserving Harford’s past; promoting Harford’s future”