



Montana's state tree is the Ponderosa pine.

Active National Arbor Day  
Foundation members in Montana  
**4,573**



**TREE CITY USA®**

### **Program in Montana:**

Tree City USA Communities: **37**  
Total population served: **422,376**

Largest Tree City USA in Montana:  
**Billings, population 95,000**

Smallest Tree City USA in Montana:  
**Virginia City, population 155**

National Arbor Day Poster Contest  
Participants in Montana  
**650 Fifth grade classrooms**  
**16,250 Fifth grade students**

National Arbor Day Award Winners  
from Montana: **1**

**Montana celebrates Arbor Day  
on the last Friday in April**

# Montana

## **National Arbor Day Foundation Launches Youth Education Program – Nature Explore**

**O**ver the last few years we have noticed that today's children are experiencing a cultural shift. Our youngest generation is missing out on a vital part of early childhood development: the outdoors. The precious gift of nature is a profoundly needed influence for children today. In our mission to inspire the next generation of tree planters, The National Arbor Day Foundation has initiated a unique collaborative effort with Dimensions Educational Research Foundation, a nationally recognized leader in early childhood development. Nature Explore is an initiative aimed at connecting young children



more deeply with the natural world around them. One simple way to connect young children with the outdoors is by joining our Nature Explore™ Club. Clever stories, fun outdoor adventures, and “explorer’s tools” are part of this exciting club that will give young children and adults a closer connection with nature and each other. For more information on Nature Explore, please visit [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).

## **Montana Members Plant 43,890 Trees**

**T**he National Arbor Day Foundation's dedicated members are making a difference by planting trees in their communities across the United States. Our 4,573 Montana members helped plant more than 43,890 trees across the state in 2005.

Stanley Schroeder, a loyal member from Hamilton, Montana, has been planting Foundation membership trees since 1993. Recently Stanley shared with us a photo of his trees. With wonderful, dedicated members like Stanley, Montana will always have a strong and majestic tree presence.



Member Stanley by his 12 year old Blue Spruce tree.

## Thousands of Montana Students Take Part in Arbor Day Poster Contest

Each year, The National Arbor Day Foundation coordinates the Arbor Day National Poster Contest, sponsored by Toyota, for fifth graders in classrooms across the country. Now in its fifteenth year, the contest touches millions of children with its message about the importance of trees and wise environmental stewardship.

During the 2006 contest, more than 16,250 Montana students had the opportunity to learn the importance of tree diversity in a community forest. Students are encouraged by the educational program to think deeply about how trees make the world a greener, healthier place. By conveying their interpretation of the theme in their artwork, the student's message that Trees are Terrific is spread to thousands of people around the country.



2005 Montana State Winner



2006 National Winner

## Montana Tree City USAs Support Community Forestry

The National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA® program encourages, supports, and strengthens effective urban and community forestry programs in diverse communities nationwide through recognition, education, and publicity. From the humble beginning of the program 30 years ago, it has grown to be the leading community forestry recognition program in the country, with nearly 3,100 designated Tree City USAs across America.

Tree City USA is thriving in Montana because of the strong partnership between The National Arbor Day Foundation and the Montana Department of State Lands. Montana boasts 37 certified Tree City USA communities. Last year, Montana's Tree City USAs spent a combined total of \$2,196,370 on their urban forestry budgets benefiting the thousands of Montana residents who live in those communities. The dedication of Montana's urban and community foresters, city officials, and citizens to planting and caring for trees in their cities and towns helps increase energy savings, clean the air and water, and beautify the entire state.



## Contacts

For more information about programs offered by The National Arbor Day Foundation and our work in Montana, please visit [arborday.org](http://arborday.org) or call:

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