

South Dakota 2010 State Report



South Dakota's state tree is the Black Hills Spruce.

South Dakota State Statistics

Active Arbor Day Foundation Members in
South Dakota: **4,937**



TREE CITY USA®

Program in South Dakota:

Tree City USA Communities: **34**
Total population served: **425,268**

Largest Tree City USA in South Dakota:
Sioux Falls, population 154,100

Smallest Tree City USA in South Dakota:
Sinai, population 133

Arbor Day Poster Contest
Participants in South Dakota:

500 Fifth-grade classrooms
12,500 Fifth-grade students

Arbor Day Award Winners: **1**

**South Dakota celebrates Arbor Day on
the last Friday in April.**

Nature Explore Classrooms Are Changing the Lives of Children

Children today spend less time outdoors and are more disconnected from nature than ever before. At the same time studies show increasing rates of childhood obesity, diabetes, and behavior challenges. Addressing the problem is the growing Nature Explore program, a collaborative project of the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation. Nature Explore provides comprehensive, field-tested resources to help educators, administrators, and families make nature part of the daily lives of children – at child care centers, schools, nature centers, parks, and at home.



Nature Explore Classrooms, in spaces large and small, continue to be designed and built across the country using field-tested principles in the *Learning With Nature Idea Book* (available at natureexplore.org). In Nature Explore Classrooms, children begin to understand the natural world around them, instilling a lifelong sense of wonder and a love of nature...creating the earth's next generation of tree planters and environmental stewards.

South Dakota Members Plant 31,057 Trees

The Arbor Day Foundation's dedicated members are making a difference by planting trees in their communities across the United States. Our 4,937 South Dakota members helped plant more than 31,057 trees across the state last year.

Trees provide numerous benefits to us and our environment. Whether it is planting just one or the thousands of trees mentioned above, our members in South Dakota have just added beauty to their homes and neighborhoods, increased their property value, attracted birds and other wildlife, provided shade and windbreaks, decreased energy costs and created a more livable community.



Thousands of South Dakota Students Take Part in Arbor Day Poster Contest

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

During the 2010 contest, more than 12,500 South Dakota students had the opportunity to discover the importance of trees and forests to our environ-

ment. Olivia B. was named the state contest winner. Her winning poster depicted some of the many benefits of trees to convey the contest's 2010 theme, "Trees Are Terrific... And Energy Wise!"



(Above Right)
2009 South Dakota
State Winner

(Bottom Right)
2010 South Dakota
State Winner



South Dakota Tree City USAs Support Community Forestry

The 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 34 years ago, it has grown to be the leading community forestry recognition program in the country, with more than 3,400 designated Tree City USAs across America.

Tree City USA is thriving in South Dakota because of the strong partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation and the South Dakota Resource Conservation & Forestry Division. South Dakota boasts 34 certified Tree City USA communities. Last year, South Dakota Tree City USAs spent a combined total of \$3,073,016 on their urban forestry budgets benefiting the thousands of South Dakota residents who live in those communities. The dedication of South Dakota'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 Arbor Day Foundation and our work in South Dakota, please visit arborday.org or call:

Dan Lambe
Vice President, Programs
Arbor Day Foundation
211 N. 12th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508

888-448-7337
Fax: 402-474-0820

dlambe@arborday.org

Ray Sowers
State Forester
SD Resource Conservation
& Forestry
523 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-3623
Fax: 605-773-4003

ray.sowers@state.sd.us

Urban Forester
SD Resource Conservation
& Forestry
523 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

605-773-3594