



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

South Dakota State Statistics

Active Arbor Day Foundation members in South Dakota
3,492



TREE CITY USA® Program in South Dakota:

Tree City USA Communities: **34**
Total population served: **398,418**

Largest Tree City USA in South Dakota:
Sioux Falls, population 141,000

Smallest Tree City USA in South Dakota:
Andover, population 98

Arbor Day Poster Contest
Participants in South Dakota:
500 Fifth grade classrooms
12,500 Fifth grade students

Arbor Day Foundation Award Winners
from South Dakota: **1**

South Dakota celebrates Arbor Day on the last Friday in April



South Dakota

Arbor Day Foundation Launches Youth Education Program – Nature Explore

In growing efforts to reconnect young children with nature, Nature Explore Classrooms are being planned and built throughout the country.

These unique outdoor learning environments continue to prove effective in helping young children have positive, multi-sensory experiences with nature while inspiring a sense of wonder.

Several states currently have Nature Explore Classrooms already under construction at early childhood centers, botanical gardens, elementary schools, and day care settings. Classrooms are built using concepts from the *Learning With Nature Idea Book* in addition to assistance from landscape architects or early childhood educators.



South Dakota Members Plant 26,526 Trees

The Arbor Day Foundation's dedicated members are making a difference by planting trees in their communities across the United States. Our 3,492 South Dakota members have helped plant more than 26,526 trees across the state in 2006.

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 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 sixteenth year, the contest reaches millions of children with its message about the importance of trees and wise environmental stewardship.

During the 2007 contest, more than 12,500 South Dakota students

had the opportunity to discover the importance of trees and forests to our environment. Lukas K. was named the state contest winner. His winning poster depicted the different types of forests to convey the contest's 2007 theme, "Trees Are Terrific . . . And Forests Are Too."



(Left) 2006
South Dakota State Winner



(Below) 2007
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 30 years ago, it has grown to be the leading community forestry recognition program in the country, with over 3,200 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's Tree City USAs spent a combined total of \$3,073,016 on their urban forestry budgets benefiting over hundreds of 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:

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