

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information contact:

Camille Reynolds

Orange County UF / IFAS Extension Services

(407) 254-9200

[Camille.Reynolds@ocfl.net](mailto:Camille.Reynolds@ocfl.net)

**Website: [www.OCextension.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.OCextension.ifas.ufl.edu)**

# **ADOPT A TREE**

**Orange County, Florida** - Orange County Mayor Richard T. Crotty's ReNEW program, along with Cooperative Extension, will host six Adopt-A-Tree events during 2008. The trees are free to all Orange County citizens and are designed to encourage residents to add trees to our environment. Adding trees to the landscape has many long-term benefits. Along with the obvious advantages of shade and beauty, trees provide oxygen, filter pollution, and create habitats for wildlife. Adding trees also replenishes lost canopy due to storm damage, age, and development. And of course, pride of ownership, a sense of accomplishment and increased property value are added perks.

Orange County residents who want to participate need to register upon arrival at a Streetscape Adopt-a-Tree event and provide proof of Orange County residency, such as a driver license, photo I.D., or utility bill. No pre-registration is necessary at an Adopt-a-Tree event. Trees will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Participants must attend a 15 minute educational session to learn to plant and care for their new trees before receiving them. The supply limits two 5-gallon trees per household. Depending on availability, which is subject to change, trees include Live Oak, Sand Live Oak, Southern Magnolia, Red Maple, and Bald Cypress. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer landscape questions.

Below are the 2008 Streetscape Adopt-A-Tree events dates and locations. **Adopt-a-Tree events begin at 8 a.m., and last until noon, or until all the available trees have found a home.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>Bear Creek Park</b>	<b>1600 Bear Crossing Drive, Orlando</b>
Apr 19	Barnett Park	4801 W. Colonial Dr. Orlando
Jun 21	Jay Blanchard Park	2451 N. Dean Rd. Orlando
Aug 16	Clarcona Horseman's Park	3535 Damon Rd Apopka
Oct 18	Tibet Butler Preserve	8777 County Rd 535 Orlando
Dec. 6	Bithlo Community Park	18501 Washington St Bithlo

For more information, contact the Streetscape Adopt-a-Tree program at the Orange County Extension Center, 407.254.9200. Funding for this program is courtesy of Orange County ReNEW: Residents and Neighborhoods Empowered to Win.

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Orange County Neighborhood Services Division

"Connecting Neighbors and Neighborhoods"

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