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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Arbor Day Foundation Names Hallowell Tree City USA

Hallowell, ME was named a 2015 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Started in 1976, the Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year.

Hallowell achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community first hand," said Dan Lambe, President of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it's through volunteer engagement or public education."

Trees provide multiple benefits to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

About the Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.



**City of Hallowell
One Winthrop Street
Hallowell, Maine 04347**

Resolution 02-16-R

Proclamation of Arbor Week

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF HALLOWELL, MAINE, THAT

WHEREAS, forest trees cover eighty-nine percent of Maine's land, making the state the most forested in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the trees of Hallowell are part of the canopy of trees covering Maine; and

WHEREAS, our trees are important to the infrastructure of Hallowell, providing natural beauty, shade and a feeling of well-being in our urban environment; and

WHEREAS, the trees in our City increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of the business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, our trees can reduce the erosion of topsoil by wind and water, moderate temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, the Citizens of Hallowell recognize the importance of planting street trees, maintaining and caring for our forest and urban shade trees; and

WHEREAS, it is in keeping with the State of Maine's traditional celebration of spring to observe and promote the contributions of forest and urban trees to Maine's quality of life and that of the Citizens of Hallowell,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR OF HALLOWELL, that the week of May 15 – 21, 2016 be celebrated as **ARBOR WEEK**, and we urge all Citizens of Hallowell to support the efforts of the City to protect our trees and woodlands, and we further urge all citizens to plant a tree on their property, thereby leaving a legacy for future generations.

Sealed with the seal of the City of Hallowell on this Ninth Day of May in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Mark L. Walker
Mayor, City of Hallowell