FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arbor Day Foundation names Chicago State a 2011 Tree Campus USA

Lincoln, Neb. (April 26, 2012) – The Arbor Day Foundation has named Chicago State University a 2011 Tree Campus USA in honor of its commitment to effective community forestry management. This is the third year of recognition for Chicago State.

Chicago State University achieved the designation by meeting the required five core standards for sustainable campus forestry: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

“Students throughout the country are passionate about sustainability and community improvement, which makes the emphasis on well-maintained and healthy trees so important,” said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Achieving Tree Campus USA recognition sets an example for other colleges and universities and allows students a chance to give back to both their campus community and the community at-large.”

Tree Campus USA, a national program launched in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation, honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation. Tree Campus USA is supported by a generous grant from Toyota.

“We’re an urban university situated in the heart of the inner city, and we are fortunate to have a lovely campus made more beautiful by the greenery that sets the tone for the quiet pursuit of academics,” said Angela Henderson, a university spokeswoman.

“This Arbor Day recognition motivates our students and faculty to reaffirm our commitment to sustainable living. One way we’re living this is through our aquaponics program, which cultivates a new generation of citizens and scientists who can produce food with less land mass and impact on our natural environment. As a 145-year-old institution that has educated generations, Chicago State is proud to be a part of the long-standing Arbor Day tradition.”

During 2011, the Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota helped campuses throughout the country plant 30,000 trees, and Tree Campus USA colleges and universities have invested more than $22 million in campus forest management. More information about the Tree Campus USA program is available at http://www.arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA.

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About the Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and education organization of one million members, with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at arborday.org.