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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Sturbridge and Warren Named “Tree City USA”**

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) and Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer, Chair, Joint Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture) are pleased to announce that Sturbridge and Warren have been awarded the designation of “Tree City USA” by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on behalf of the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Sturbridge and Warren received their awards along with 81 other Massachusetts communities at a ceremony in Springfield on Wednesday, June 15. There are four criteria that are required to earn the award. A town must have a tree board or department, an ordinance governing the planting, maintenance and removal of public trees, a minimum community forestry budget of \$2 per capita, and must officially observe Arbor Day in late April.

“I would like to congratulate both Sturbridge and Warren for earning this prestigious national award,” said Representative Smola. “Our local officials put in a lot of work throughout the year to ensure that our community is such a beautiful place to live and work.”

“Trees are such an important part of our environment and the continued emphasis the towns of Sturbridge and Warren place on preserving and enhancing our public spaces with trees makes them worthy of this special designation,” said Senator Gobi.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617)722-2100.

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