

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Concord Tree Warden Recognized as Tree Warden of the Year



January 10, 2007, Sturbridge MA: The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Forester's Association (MTWFA) presented its Seth Swift Memorial Tree Warden of the Year Award to Mr. Peter Flynn, Tree Warden for the Town of Concord.

Mr. Flynn is the Town of Concord's Park & Tree Supervisor and has been providing outstanding park and tree stewardship for the past twenty-five years, most recently as Concord's Tree Warden. With Peter's drive of the support of public trees he has helped the Town of Concord to:

- invest an average for \$15,000 per year towards purchasing and planting shade trees using the industry motto of "right tree, right place".
- receive public and private grants and gifts for the purchasing and planting of shade and park trees.
- create an educational brochure of invasive plants.
- celebrate Arbor Day every year with a tree planting ceremony led by Peter Flynn
- create a Town tree protection policy



*Peter Flynn, Vinny Ruziak, Tim Jones, Mick Hone, Pat Corr and Bob Wockenfuss*

The Town of Concord's Park and Tree Division maintains public playgrounds, athletic fields, public shade trees, and conservation lands. Much of their work is coordinated with the Natural Resources Coordinator, The Town Recreation Director, and many conservation groups.

Mr. Flynn was recognized by the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association for his commitment to community work and dedication as Tree Warden for the Town of Concord. His work educating local community groups by creating invasive species brochures and literature has benefited the Town's nature lovers, homeowners and outdoor enthusiasts about the dangers of picking, transporting, or planting invasive species.

The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association is recognized as the nations oldest urban and community tree protection organization, having been formed in 1913 for the preservation and protection of trees. The Tree Warden of the Year Award was presented to Mr. Peter Flynn by Past President, Thomas Brady and Current President, Melissa LeVangie at the Associations' 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at the Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA.

Tree Wardens are municipal positions required under Massachusetts General Laws to protect public shade trees within the 351 cities and towns of the Commonwealth. For more information on Tree Wardens, and what they do, along with the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association visit their website at [www.masstreewardens.org](http://www.masstreewardens.org).

Melissa LeVangie  
*President, Massachusetts Tree Wardens' & Foresters' Association*

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