



Trees for Tracks  
Baltimore, Maryland

Morrell Park Elementary/  
Middle School  
April 10, 2010

## CSX Trees for Tracks and Alliance for Community Trees Volunteers Plant 50 Large Trees At Baltimore Elementary and Middle School



More than 60 volunteers from CSX Trees for Tracks, Alliance for Community Trees (ACT), TreeBaltimore and Parks & People Foundation planted 50 large trees at Morrell Park Elementary/Middle School at 2601 Tolley Street in Baltimore. The Trees for Tracks program promises to plant one tree for every mile of track in the 21,000-mile CSX rail system.

The trees, up to two-inch caliper, included Eastern Redbud (*cercis canadensis*), River Birch (*betula nigra*), Willow Oak (*quercus phellos*), Sycamore (*platanus occidentalis*), Tulip Poplar (*liriodendron tulipifera*), Serviceberry (*amelanchier canadensis*), Sweetgum (*liquidambar styraciflua*), Pin Oak (*quercus palustris*), Hornbeam (*carpinus caroliniana*) and Winterking Hawthorne (*crataegus* species), all native to the region.

Parks and People's "Green Up, Clean Up" crew will maintain and provide ongoing care to the trees. The crew's work is supported in part by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to create green jobs in Baltimore.

The planting marks the second time in less than a year that the CSX "Trees for Tracks" program has come to Baltimore. Last October, the railway and its partners planted large Sycamores, Red Buds and Oaks throughout the Westport redevelopment area.

"We have a very strong commitment and connection to Baltimore," says Tori Kaplan, director of corporate citizenship for CSX. "Our local partners are very creative and always identify places where the effort will provide the most benefit to the community."



## **CSX Trees for Tracks and Alliance for Community Trees Volunteers Plant 50 Large Trees At Baltimore Elementary and Middle School**

“It was a great collaborative effort,” says Sean Conley, principal, Morrell Park Elementary/Middle School. “These kinds of projects provide students with valuable lessons about urban ecology. The planting will serve as a living classroom for many years to come.”

“Trees make the campus healthier and they also contribute to kids’ success at school,” adds Alice Ewen, executive director of the national DC-area based ACT. “Research shows kids perform better in lots of ways when provided with more green in their parks, school yards and playgrounds.”

At the event, CSX Trees for Tracks announced ongoing support for the city’s tree-planting efforts by committing to fund a popular TreeBaltimore program that provides 1,000 one-gallon trees to local residents this spring at no charge. The City of Baltimore previously funded the program.



*CSX Corporation, based in Jacksonville, Fla., is one of the nation’s leading transportation companies, providing rail, intermodal and rail-to-truck transload services. The company’s transportation network spans approximately 21,000 miles, with service to 23 eastern states and the District of Columbia, and connects to more than 70 ocean, river and lake ports. More information about CSX Corporation and its subsidiaries is available at the company’s web site, [www.csx.com](http://www.csx.com).*

*City Year is a national youth service organization based in Boston, Mass. The organization unites young people of all backgrounds for a year of full-time service in schools and neighborhoods across the country, where they foster citizenship, mentor children and build up communities. For more information, visit [www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org).*

*Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees. With 160 grassroots affiliates in 41 states and Canada, ACT engages volunteers to take action to improve the environment where 80% of people live – in urban areas. ACT member organizations have planted and cared for 14.9 million trees in cities with help from 4.3 million volunteers. For more information, visit [www.actrees.org](http://www.actrees.org).*