



ARTHUR G. PAPPAS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Mayor Pappas Announces Tree Nursery Relocation to North Tonawanda Wastewater Treatment Plant Property**

NORTH TONAWANDA—Mayor Arthur G. Pappas announced the relocation of the Botanical Garden tree nursery to a new home on the grounds of the North Tonawanda Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Members of the North Tonawanda Environmental Committee, the Civil Service Employee Association, along with North Tonawanda Parks and Recreation Director Patty Brosius and Superintendent of Water/ Wastewater Bill Davignon came together on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> to help transfer roughly 80 trees - previously delivered earlier in the week - from 2.5 gallon pots to 13 gallon pots for plantation.

In total, members of the Environmental Committee obtained 10 each of Sycamore, Red Oak, White Oak, Crabapple and Tulip Poplar trees for plantation in April at the Botanical Gardens. An additional 60 Sycamore, Butternut and Bayberry seedlings were planted in July provided by Robbyn Drake, the Director of Education and Training with Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER, a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and promoting the expansion of clean waterways, greenways and parks throughout the region.

"I am very happy to see this project continued here in North Tonawanda. This location is perfect for the security of the trees – not to mention the wastewater treatment plant providing treated water," said Mayor Pappas. "North Tonawanda is recognized for our commitment to green spaces and specifically trees. With the Ash trees in trouble, I believe the people of our community will appreciate the work being done to continue supplying trees to offset the unfortunate losses we are seeing county wide."

The tree nursery was initiated through the efforts of the Environmental Committee which began under former North Tonawanda Mayor Ortt with the intention of providing a gradual supply of trees for the municipality if needed, as well as providing an educational experience for students all at a low cost to the City.

