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Pictured are blooms on the Southern Crab Apple tree.

City of Rocky Mount Annual Tree Giveaway

Rocky Mount, N.C. – On March 1, 2021, the city of Rocky Mount Tree Advisory Board will be giving away free Southern Crab Apple tree seedlings at the drive-thru exit at the Business Services Center located at 224 S. Franklin Street. The event will last from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the limit is two trees per person while supplies last.

The Southern Crab Apple is a small deciduous tree that grows 20 to 30 feet in height. The Southern Crab Apple tree also produces small fruit (i.e. apples) about one inch in diameter that can be used for jelly, preserves and cider.

Low-growing trees that are suitable for planting near power lines are given away each year to help keep Rocky Mount beautiful and to promote proper planting. Planting deciduous trees on the south and west sides of the home can also help save energy. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, so they provide shade in the summer and allow sunlight to warm the home in the winter.

Before planting trees, residents are reminded to first call 811 at least three business days beforehand to have underground utilities located. Even when digging only a few inches, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists. 811 is the national call-before-you-dig number and is free of charge for all excavators.

For more information about the annual tree giveaway, call (252) 467-4800.

About Rocky Mount

The city of Rocky Mount, located in the Coastal Plains of North Carolina, was incorporated in 1867 and lies in Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Rocky Mount is a two-time All-America City on the Tar River. Serving as the Gateway to Eastern North Carolina, the city's 875 employees serve approximately 58,000 residents daily.

The city's mission is to advance community well-being, safety and quality of life by delivering excellent public services and actively collaborating with the community toward a fulfilling and inspired future for its citizens. As a publicly owned utility, the city of Rocky Mount is committed to safe, reliable service for its customers and operates in Nash and Edgecombe counties, providing customers with electricity, natural gas, water, wastewater (sewer), refuse, recycling and/or stormwater services. To learn more, visit www.rockymountnc.gov for news and updates.

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