

For Immediate Release



The Town of Smyrna Announces the Winner of its 2016 Earth Day Tree Raffle

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May 10, 2016 –Town of Smyrna – Congratulates Carol Lavender for winning the 4th Annual Town of Smyrna 2016 Earth Day Tree Raffle!

The Town of Smyrna decided to celebrate Earth Day by raffling a shade tree to promote their cost savings benefits. Not only do shade trees naturally provide a welcoming spot for one to sit and cool down during hot summer days, but when properly located and planted they can reduce home and business energy costs by reducing the need for summer air conditioning. The energy savings associated with trees doesn't stop with summer. In the winter, trees lose their leaves which allows the sun to warm up homes and business; reducing heating needs and lowering heating costs.

The 2016 Earth Day Tree Raffle is part of the Town of Smyrna's Earth Day Education campaign to teach its citizens more about energy efficiency and conservation. The Town of Smyrna provided a display at Smyrna Town Hall for the public to learn more about this year's overall message: **Think Locally, Act Locally, and Buy Locally** to benefit health and quality of life while saving money.



Left to Right: Town of Smyrna Mayor Joanne Masten, Earth Day Tree Raffle Winner Carol Lavender; Smyrna Town Manager Dave Hugg

Thinking Locally – Means asking ourselves to think about:

- The uniqueness of our community,
- How we sometimes waste our limited resources, and
- How to use resources more sustainably to retain the natural beauty of the local environment

Acting Locally – Means taking action to help ourselves and our community:

- Save money on electric costs through simple low and no cost energy efficiency measures,
- Better understand how energy efficiency and conservation help reduce local carbon emissions, and
- Take direct personal action by entering a raffle to win a tree that not only absorbs carbon but also reduces summer cooling costs through free shading

Buying Locally – Means we should seek local resources first because:

- Imported food typically travels farther and requires more fuel to get from field to plate,
- Local trips can sometimes be handled on foot or bike which reduces vehicle miles traveled and saves energy, and
- Reducing the amount of congestion on the roads can improve local air quality

To learn more about how to save energy, visit the Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC) website www.demecinc.net

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DEMEC was formed in 1979 as a public corporation constituted as a Joint Action Agency and a wholesale electric utility. DEMEC represents and serves the nine municipal electric distribution utilities located in the State of Delaware.

Members of DEMEC are the cities and towns of Clayton, Smyrna, Lewes, Middletown, Milford, New Castle, Newark, Seaford and Smyrna. Collectively, they serve over 129,000 residents and businesses in their respective communities. In total DEMEC's Members have a peak load over 450 Megawatts. DEMEC is a generation owner and the PJM Load Serving Entity ("LSE") for eight of these municipal utilities (except Smyrna) and provides 100% of their wholesale power supply requirements.