

# 100 NEWS RELEASE

From: Rockford Park District – City of Gardens

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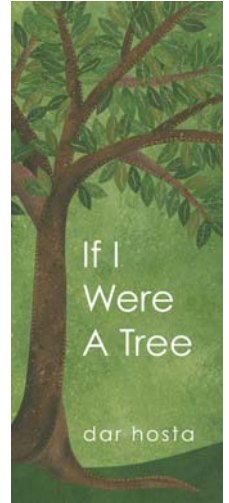
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## City of Gardens Hosts Earth Month and Arbor Day Event: Free Books and Seedlings Distributed

Rockford, IL - In celebration of Earth Month and Arbor Day, the Rockford Park District's City of Gardens program will host a series of story hours at four locations on **Saturday, April 25, 2009**. Each family attending the story hour will receive a free copy of the book *If I Were a Tree*, by Dar Hosta and a free seedling. Books and seedlings will be available on a first-come first-served basis while supplies last.

*If I Were a Tree* has received numerous awards including a Media Award from the National Arbor Day Foundation and a Growing Good Kids Award from the American Horticultural Society. Ruth Miller, Program Director for the City of Gardens said the book and seedling giveaway is a nice fit for Earth Month and Arbor Day events. "Rockford is affectionately known as the Forest City and our tree canopy is aging. It is important for reforestation efforts to continue and for us to grow the stewards of our environment in our youth. The beautifully-illustrated book is thought provoking and will be something that children could hand down to future generations," said Miller.



The story hours will be held at a variety of locations and times on Saturday, April 25th:

### Rockford Public Library

#### *East Branch*

6685 East State Street - Rockford  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### Linda K. White Center at Aldeen Park

623 North Alpine Rd. - Rockford  
Noon to 1 p.m.

### Rockford Public Library

#### *Rockton Centre Branch*

3112 North Rockton Ave. - Rockford  
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

### Washington Park Community Center

3617 Delaware St. - Rockford  
11 a.m. to noon

The City of Gardens is partnering with a variety of organizations and businesses to fund this effort, including: the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, Kiwanis Charities of Rockford, St. Aubin Nursery, Comcast, and Specialty Screw.

The Rockford Park District's City of Gardens mission is to provide community-wide enhancement of public and private places in order to create a beautiful, healthy, and safe environment in which to live, work, and play.

For more information, contact Ruth Miller at 815-987-1689 or [ruthmiller@rockfordparkdistrict.org](mailto:ruthmiller@rockfordparkdistrict.org).

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## ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

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