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**Tree Planting Ceremony to Take Place at Hazel Hill Apartments
on Friday, October 21st**

*Families Will Join Community Leaders in Planting Trees as Part of a City-Wide Effort to Add
600 Trees to Fredericksburg and Reduce Energy and Infrastructure Costs by \$1.8 Million*

(Fredericksburg, VA- October 20, 2011)-- On Friday, October 21st, City Councilwoman Beatrice Paolucci, affordable housing residents, community volunteers from Micah Ministries and others will gather to plant trees at Hazel Hill Apartments in an effort to save energy and water and contribute to the beautification of Fredericksburg. The event is being sponsored by Tree Fredericksburg as part of its campaign to plant 600 trees throughout the city by the end of the year. The planting will begin at 9:00 a.m. at 100 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg.

Thirty Hazel Hill residents are expected to help plant 25 8-foot trees around their homes. Hazel Hill is home to 147 low-income families.

In addition to the many environmental benefits of planting trees, the trees planted at Hazel Hill will help save energy and reduce utility bills for low-income families. The trees will provide energy-saving shade. Well placed trees can save consumers up to 30% on heating and cooling costs. These savings are particularly important to low-income families who often spend up to 20% of their budget on household energy costs.

“Tree Fredericksburg is very pleased to be partnering with the Hazel Hill community”, said Anne Little of Tree Fredericksburg. “Planting these trees is a win-win for the Hazel Hill residents and for the citizens of Fredericksburg. In addition to saving energy for residents, trees provide natural infrastructure that controls storm water runoff, reducing the need for cities to undertake expensive infrastructure projects. Other benefits for the citizens of Fredericksburg

include air cleaning and heat reduction. All totaled, planting 600 trees will save the citizens of Fredericksburg more than \$1.8 million in reduced infrastructure and energy costs.”

Hazel Hill Apartments in an award-winning affordable housing property that has been recognized for its high quality resident services. It is owned and operated by the National Housing Trust-Enterprise Preservation Corporation (NHT/Enterprise).

“Tree planting is a great opportunity to give our residents a stake in improving their homes,” said Scott Kline, NHT/Enterprise Vice President. “We are pleased to be working along with the residents to make a difference in this community.”

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About National Housing Trust-Enterprise Preservation Corporation: *A joint effort of the National Housing Trust and Enterprise Community Partners, NHT/Enterprise partners with community groups, for-profits and investors to buy and renovate affordable apartments that are deteriorating or at risk of being converted to market rate. Based in Washington, DC, NHT-Enterprise has preserved more than 5,000 affordable homes in nine states and the District of Columbia.*

About Tree Fredericksburg: *Tree Fredericksburg is a non-profit organization dedicated to Restore and maintain a vibrant urban forest in the City of Fredericksburg. Tree Fredericksburg partners with the City of Fredericksburg to plant trees with volunteer labor throughout our city.*