

Shelby, N.C. is a little greener now... thanks to **Rebuild Shelby** and the North Carolina Forest Service. On March 19, Shelby celebrated Arbor Day for the third consecutive year by giving more than 2,000 pine seedlings to the public. Shelby's Arbor Day focused on increasing the citizens' awareness of the environmental benefits of the town's greenery and of Rebuild Shelby's

revitalization effort in the Uptown area. An aesthetic focal point and distinguishing

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feature of Shelby's central business district, the town's oak trees provide natural cooling to the uptown area. Rebuild Shelby circulated this message along with information on their partnership, energy conservation, and its work to preserve the historical architecture in their uptown area. The Forest Service also had forest rangers on hand to answer questions about other benefits of the trees and greenery while Smokey the Bear provided entertainment. The event was sponsored by Rebuild Shelby, Uptown Shelby Association, Cleveland County Chamber of Commerce, and the North Carolina Forest Service. In the coming months Rebuild Shelby plans to calculate the impact that Shelby's oak trees have on removing pollutants from the air.



Smokey the Bear helps give away free seedlings at Shelby, N.C.'s Arbor Day event. Joining him are members of the North Carolina Forest Service, the Uptown Shelby Association and Rebuild Shelby – Ted Alexander is on right.