

News Release

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Flint Hills Resources plants 15,000th tree in Dakota County for Arbor Day

Rosemount, Minn. – This Arbor Day, Flint Hills Resources is planting its 15,000th tree in Dakota County. Flint Hills has planted hundreds of native trees each year since 2008 as part of its commitment to protecting the natural environment that surrounds the Pine Bend refinery. Held on Friday, April 26, Arbor Day is a national day of recognition to celebrate the importance of trees.

"Protecting and enhancing the natural environment that surrounds our facility is a priority for Flint Hills Resources year-round. There are 15,000 more trees in Dakota County this Arbor Day thanks to our dedicated employees and community partners who bring these ideas to life," said Heather Rein, director of community affairs at Flint Hills Resources' Pine Bend refinery.

In addition to its tree-planting program, Flint Hills Resources has partnered with Friends of the Mississippi River and Great River Greening since 2000 to restore natural riverfront property in an area known as the Pine Bend Bluffs in Inver Grove Heights. This area provides critical habitat for resident and migratory birds, including songbirds, waterfowl and shorebirds. <u>Click here</u> to watch a video about the Pine Bend Bluffs restoration project. Flint Hills Resources also partners with nonprofit Ducks Unlimited to conserve nearly 200,000 acres of Minnesota's lake and wetland habitat for waterfowl.

<u>Click here</u> to download a photo of trees that Flint Hills Resources has planted in Dakota County.

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota's gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a capacity of 345,000 barrels per day and is among the cleanest, most efficient and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion in upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,000 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the company is available at pinebendrefinery.com.