Help Make the World a Greener Place

I recently received a note from Den Gardner, executive director of the Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association. In addition to his duties with TOCA, Gardner is the development director for the Evergreen Foundation, a non-profit foundation dedicated to promoting and funding the creation of a national greenway system.

The foundation was originally formed in 1998 to marshal the resources of the Green Industry in bringing the healing power of growing things to communities across the country. The foundation fosters greenways, trails, neighborhood parks and other green spaces for public use in order to help improve the quality of life in America.

The foundation intends to select greenway projects around the country, fund those community projects with cash or in-kind support of work, machinery or materials, and foster a greater appreciation for green spaces in our nation's cities and towns.

To help raise funds for these projects, the Evergreen Foundation is holding a fund-raiser to give away, courtesy of John Deere Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division, a Trail Gator utility vehicle. Only 400 tickets will be sold, at a price of $50 per ticket, giving each entry a 1 in 400 chance of winning the Gator. The money raised through the ticket sales will be used to fund grants to communities and organizations seeking to build greenways.

To participate, send a $50 check paid to the order of the Evergreen Foundation and send it to Den Gardner at the following address:

Evergreen Foundation
c/o Den Gardner
120 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 156
New Prague, MN 56071

Because the Evergreen Foundation is a non-profit organization, your contribution is tax-deductible.

When your check is received, you will be sent a ticket with your raffle number clearly indicated. The drawing will be held at the Green Industry Expo in Indianapolis on Nov. 7. Don't fret if you will not be in Indianapolis that weekend—participants need not be present to win.

For more information, call Den Gardner at 877-758-4835 or e-mail your inquiries to evergreenfound@aol.com. For additional information about the Evergreen Foundation check the Web site at www.evergreenfoundation.com

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