

## Wal-Mart donates to Habitat

On Oct. 18, officials from the city of Grand Rapids, Forests for Humanity, Habitat for Humanity, and Wal-Mart celebrated Wal-Mart's \$21,172 donation to four Habitat for Humanity affiliates to assist the organizations' home-building efforts across the state of Minnesota.

Wal-Mart's donation was funded by the sale of timber harvested from the new Grand Rapids Wal-Mart supercenter site, which is under construction.

Wal-Mart coordinated the timber harvesting for this donation through its partnership with Forests for Humanity, a national

program of the Society of American Foresters and Habitat for Humanity that facilitates timber donations to help build Habitat homes. The Forests for Humanity program demonstrates, in a very real manner, the renewable life cycle of forests. Mature trees are harvested, and the timber is used to build homes.

To complete the cycle, Habitat homeowners can use some of the "sweat equity" they must expend to "earn" the keys to their new home (about 200 hours per adult) to plant trees or participate in other forest management activities in the vicinity of their community.

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