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## **New Mountain Residential Development Aids Fight Against Chestnut Blight**

(Asheville, N.C.) The fight to develop a blight-resistant American chestnut tree gained a new ally this week with the announcement that the Red Wolf Run Foundation has agreed to donate funds and property to The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF).

Red Wolf Run, a premier mountain property development, just minutes from Asheville, was named the official Western North Carolina residential community sponsor of TACF. Approximately 50 new American chestnuts were planted in a reserve area located on the grounds at Red Wolf Run. The land enables TACF to conduct research.

The Red Wolf Run Foundation also donated an initial \$5,000 on behalf of the Red Wolf Run community to TACF. With every home site purchased at Red Wolf Run, the Red Wolf Run Foundation will donate \$1,000 to TACF to aid with research and development of a blight-resistant American chestnut tree.

"The American chestnut tree once flourished in this region," said Red Wolf Run managing partner Ron Basile. "The trees were beautiful to behold, towering nearly 100 feet in the air. Today, American chestnut sprouts still grow in the Blue Ridge Mountains but succumb to the perils of blight before they reach maturity. We take our corporate stewardship of the environment seriously and we are proud to sponsor an organization whose mission is to see the once-mighty tree flourish again."

The American chestnut tree was severely damaged by a blight brought over on Oriental chestnut trees. Chinese and Japanese chestnut trees possess resistance to the blight and remained unaffected. Now, scientific research is being conducted to develop a new blight-resistant American chestnut tree. Over the last 20 years, TACF has driven that research. Dr. Paul Sisco, TACF's Southern Regional Science Coordinator, will oversee the growth and development of the new trees at Red Wolf Run.

"The Red Wolf Run Foundation's commitment to TACF far exceeds a traditional financial donation," said Marshal Case, President and CEO of TACF. "They have sponsored us not only financially, but also through the donation of land. Through their gift of land, they have provided a scientific planting site that should produce regionally adapted material that could help restore the American chestnut in western North Carolina. We are pleased to have their support."

This is the second sponsorship that Red Wolf Run has announced in less than a year. The Foundation also sponsors the Red Wolf habitat located at the Western North Carolina Nature Center.

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### ***Editors Note:***

*Red Wolf Run is a premier residential community located minutes from Asheville, North Carolina. Residents can live amid splendor and enjoy the beauty of nature and views of the Blue Ridge Mountains while enjoying the eclectic atmosphere of Asheville. For additional information call 828-251-6393 or visit, <http://www.redwolfrun.net>.*

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### **THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT FOUNDATION**

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