

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tabitha Zane
Vice President, Investor Relations
919-431-1529

Highwoods Properties Signs Leases Totaling 69,000 Square Feet with Three New Customers at PPG Place

Raleigh, NC – August 8, 2012 - Highwoods Properties, Inc. (NYSE: HIW), today announced that it has signed long-term leases totaling 69,000 square feet at PPG Place in Pittsburgh with three new customers. These transactions include two leases at PPG Place I for 35,000 square feet and 18,000 square feet and a 16,000 square foot lease at PPG Place VI.

Ed Fritsch, President and CEO of Highwoods, stated, *"We are extremely pleased with the strong leasing activity at PPG Place since we acquired the 1.54 million square foot office complex last September. In the three quarters we have owned PPG Place, occupancy has increased 240 basis points to 83.6%, and is on track to increase another 290 basis points by year end to 86.5%, including the net positive impact of these new customers."*

About Highwoods Properties

Highwoods Properties, headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, is a publicly traded (NYSE:HIW) real estate investment trust ("REIT") and a member of the S&P MidCap 400 Index. The Company is a fully integrated, self-administered REIT that provides leasing, management, development, construction and other customer-related services for its properties and for third parties. At June 30, 2012, Highwoods owned or had an interest in 338 in-service office, industrial and retail properties encompassing approximately 34.6 million square feet and owned 581 acres of development land. The Company's properties and development land are located in Florida, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. For more information about Highwoods Properties, please visit our website at www.highwoods.com.

Certain matters discussed in this press release such as projected leasing and occupancy projections are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. These statements are distinguished by use of the words "will", "expect", "intend" and words of similar meaning. Although Highwoods believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that its expectations will be achieved.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from Highwoods' current expectations include, among others, the following: the financial condition of our customers could deteriorate; development activity by our competitors in our existing markets could result in excessive supply of properties relative to customer demand; development, acquisition, reinvestment, disposition or joint venture projects may not be completed as quickly or on as favorable terms as anticipated; we may not be able to lease or re-lease second generation space quickly or on as favorable terms as old leases; our markets may suffer declines in economic growth; we may not be able to lease our newly constructed buildings as quickly or on as favorable terms as originally anticipated; unanticipated increases in interest rates could increase our debt service costs; unanticipated increases in operating expenses could negatively impact our NOI; we may

not be able to meet our liquidity requirements or obtain capital on favorable terms to fund our working capital needs and growth initiatives or to repay or refinance outstanding debt upon maturity; the Company could lose key executive officers; and others detailed in the Company's 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent SEC reports.

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