



City of Murphy
206 N. Murphy Rd.
Murphy, TX 75094
(972) 468- 4000
www.murphytx.org

News Release

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Media Contact: Celso Martinez 972-623-8836

City of Murphy named Tree City USA for sixth time *Designation recognizes City's commitment to nature*

MURPHY (June 19, 2017) For the sixth year in a row, the City of Murphy has been designated as a recipient of the Tree City USA certification from the Arbor Day Foundation.

“We have always been keenly aware of the relationship Murphy residents have with nature,” says Director of Public Services Tim Rogers. “Trees and natural landscaping are important parts of our identity as a City. Our commitment to nature helps define Murphy.”

The City has grown around and preserved an abundant urban forest, present on the City's footprint since its inception. The staff and countless volunteers continue to cultivate that feature with constant maintenance of the Maxwell Creek corridor and its leafy canopy as well as various parks, trails, open spaces and the newly-completed Timbers Nature Preserve.

In addition to these efforts, the Arbor Day Foundation noted Murphy's active adherence to the tenets of the Tree City USA designation. These include the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“Citizens have expressed to us, in a variety of ways, that trees and natural landscaping are important to them,” added Rogers. “We take that very seriously and do what we can to ensure that trees are healthy and plentiful.”

Annually, during the Arbor Day celebration, the City hosts a morning-long tree-planting program that adds dozens of young saplings to areas in and around the City Hall complex.

The trees provide multiple benefits by helping to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

The Tree City USA designation covers calendar year 2016.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.