



City of Murphy  
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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Volunteers, tree decorators and craft vendors sought *Christmas in the Park set for Dec. 4 at Municipal Complex*

MURPHY (November 5, 2014) In Murphy, the tradition of Christmastime gift-giving often includes donating time as a volunteer during Christmas in the Park, says Recreation Specialist Kayla McFarland.

“Murphy is one of those rare communities,” she said, “where people step forward and give of themselves willingly and with enthusiasm. The culture of volunteering is very strong here, and it’s especially visible during Christmas.”

Christmas in the Park is set for Thursday, Dec. 4 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Murphy Municipal Complex, 206 North Murphy Road. The event is free and open to the public.

“We’ve started asking for volunteers to help us in several ways,” she said. “Setting up the Municipal Complex for the event and transforming it into a winter wonderland is almost as much fun as the event itself.”

Volunteers for set-up and clean-up are especially needed as well for the crafts and activities. A volunteer form is available at [www.murphytx.org](http://www.murphytx.org).

The City’s web site also includes an entry form for the Recycling Tree Decorating Contest. For those who register, a 6-foot, pre-lit Christmas tree will be set up in the City Hall entryway. These trees can be trimmed with recyclable materials, especially this year’s required item – junk mail. Contestants should be sure to remove specific addresses before adding the mail to the tree.

Deadline for registration is 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 21. Trees can be decorated from Nov. 24 to noon on Dec. 4. Trees will be judged on originality, theme, creativity, appearance, and use of required item.

“Lastly, we are calling all craft vendors to be a part of Christmas in The Park vendor area,” added McFarland. “Space is limited, so potential vendors should contact us as soon as possible to ensure a spot in the highly popular vendor area.” Interested craft vendors should contact McFarland via e-mail at [kmcfarland@murphytx.org](mailto:kmcfarland@murphytx.org).

Food vendors will take charge of the evening’s dinner needs, as La Rosita’s Tacos will delight with Mexican fare and Pro Catering will present their delicious offerings. Race Trac will be on hand for coffee and hot chocolate.

The traditional lighting of the community Christmas tree is set for 6:30 p.m. and among the activities and attractions planned are marshmallow roasting, live reindeer, food for purchase, free photos with Santa, and the popular craft market. An ATM will be onsite for the convenience of visitors. Free parking at Kimbrough Stadium will be available and no-cost shuttles will ferry visitors to and from the parking lot all evening.

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**ABOUT MURPHY** -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, 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. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> 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.