



City of Murphy  
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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Volunteers sought for annual Arbor Day tree planting *A limited number of free trees to be given away*

MURPHY (October 29, 2015) There are many good reasons to plant trees, and some volunteers at Murphy's Arbor Day tree-planting event will benefit doubly from their efforts, says Kayla McFarland, the City's Special Events Coordinator.

"Volunteers who join us to help plant trees at Central Park will not only add to the park's living inventory, many of them will receive a tree to plant on their own property," she said.

The fourth annual Arbor Day tree-planting event is set for Saturday, Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are needed for the annual event, and may register at [www.murphytx.org](http://www.murphytx.org). All ages of volunteers are welcome, though volunteers younger than 16 years of age should be accompanied by an adult.

"Trees are so important to our environment," said McFarland. "They decrease the carbon dioxide in the air and increase oxygen levels in the atmosphere. They also improve water quality and reduce erosion."

In addition to adding beauty to homes and parks, trees can increase the value of a home by as much as 15 percent. They give songbirds a home, and provide food for all kinds of wildlife. The shade they provide in the summer and the windbreak in the winter can have a positive effect on home cooling and heating costs as well.

"Green leafy canopies add a certain beauty to neighborhoods," she said. "And, what kid can resist sitting on a swing hanging from a branch?"

Volunteers who assist with the two-hour planting will be provided lunch, catered by In-N-Out Burger from noon to 1 p.m. The first 125 volunteers to register will also receive a commemorative T-shirt, and the first 100 registered volunteers will receive a tree to plant on their own property at no charge. Limit one tree per family.

City staff will be on site to assist with the planting and some tools will be provided. Volunteers should wear closed toe shoes and bring their own work gloves. Shovels brought from home will also be welcome.

Previous tree planting events have added numerous long-lasting trees to the Municipal Complex grounds, and have planted attractive tree-lined borders to adjoining trails.

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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.