

Press Release

January 23, 2014

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28th Annual Arbor Day Celebration Highlights HPARD Partners' Commitment To Trees

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) will hold its 28th Annual Arbor Day Celebration season on January 25, 2014, at Memorial Park. The official Arbor Day Ceremony will recognize HPARD partners who have worked to plant over 105,723 trees in 31 parks and greenspaces across the city between October 2013 and the end of February 2014. Those partners include: the Apache Corporation, Trees for Houston, The Texas A&M Forest Service, TXU Energy, Memorial Park Conservancy, Hermann Park Conservancy, the Tu Bishvat Jewish New Year for Trees, AmeriCorps, and the Houston Parks Board.

"We would like to thank our many partners and their volunteers who have donated and planted trees in our parks and greenspaces during this 28th Annual Arbor Day planting season," said Mayor Annise Parker. "Their continued support is greatly appreciated as we continue to reforest our parks."

The official Arbor Day celebration ceremony on January 25, 2014, will be held at Memorial Park, where Apache Corporation volunteers will plant 5,025 trees in the area along West Memorial Loop Drive. Apache volunteers will begin planting at 8:00 am and the annual Arbor Day ceremony will follow at 10:00 am.

"Apache's continued support and dedication to Houston's Urban Forest is something that we are truly thankful for," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "Since 2005, they have donated over 59,900 trees to the department. Apache employees have volunteered to plant those trees in our parks and greenspaces, and this year they will be donating an additional 10,025 trees to Houston parks. We are truly thankful to Apache for their dedication to Houston's Urban Forest."

In addition to Memorial Park, there will be planting activities in two other Houston parks on January 25th. These events will be conducted by HPARD partners and their volunteers.

Arbor Day (January 25) planting park sites include:

- Glenshire- 12100 Riceville School Road, 77031
Planted by HPARD Urban Forestry
- Meadowcreek Village - 5333 Berry Creek, 77017
Planted by HPARD Urban Forestry staff and volunteers
- Memorial Park - 6501 Memorial Drive, 77007
Planted by Apache Corporation volunteers

Park sites scheduled to be planted in February 2014 include:

- Francklow - 1300 Seagler, 77042
Planted by Houston Parks Board and volunteers
- Hermann - 6001 Fannin, 77030
Planted by the Hermann Park Conservancy
- MacGregor Park - 5225 Calhoun, 77021
Planted by Trees for Houston
- Oak Forest - 2100 Judiway, 77018
Planted by Trees for Houston
- Riverside - 2600 S Calumet/N Calumet, 77004
Planted by Houston Parks Board

Park sites that have already been planted during the Arbor Day season include:

- Agnes Moffitt - 10645 Hammerly, 77043
Planted by Trees for Houston
- Burnett Bayland - 6000 Chimney Rock, 77081
Planted by Tu Bishvat Jewish New Year for Trees
- Freed - 6818 Shady Villa Lane, 77055
Planted by Trees for Houston and volunteers
- Herman Brown Park - 400 Mercury Drive, 77013
Planted by TXU Energy
- Sunnyside Park Trail - 3502 Bellfort, 77051
Planted by HPARD AmeriCorps crews

Esplanades planted by HPARD and/or HPARD contractors during the Arbor Day Season include:

- Airport from Scott to MLK
- Antoine Street 1540 Blocks to 1740 Blocks
- Bellfort from Hwy 288 to Canyon
- Bissonnet from Hwy 59 to Beltway 8
- Chimney Rock from I-10 to Memorial
- Cullen from Airport to Almeda-Genoa Road
- Elgin from Hwy 59 to Scott
- Griggs Road 4500 Block to Lawndale Street
- Kirkwood from Bissonnet to Bellaire
- Kirby Esplanade from the 610 Loop to Holmes Road
- Mykawa from the 610 Loop to Airport
- Reed Road from Scott to Rosehaven
- Scott from Zephyr to Yellowstone
- South Braeswood from South Gessner to Hwy 59
- South Gessner from South Braeswood to Beltway 8
- West Airport from Ravensworth to Bob White
- West Bellfort from Main to Buffalo Speedway
- West Bellfort from Roark to Albury

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,832 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.