

City of Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee

PRESS RELEASE



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Contact: Mike FitzGerald
(214) 855-3787

Tree Planting Season Arrives; Urban Forest Advisory Committee Releases Tree Planting Guide *Free guide provides ABC's of planting trees in Dallas*

Dallas, TX – As cooler temperatures and shorter days usher in autumn's arrival, it also marks the beginning of Dallas' tree planting season. This year, the City is encouraging community groups to take charge and plant trees around the city. To facilitate tree plantings, the City is releasing a tree planting guide which provides community groups and residents with simple information on how to plant and maintain North Texas trees.

The guide, entitled "ABC's to Planting Trees in Dallas", offers basic yet professional tree planting advice detailing ideal tree planting conditions, best watering methods, and practical tree placement guidance to reduce energy costs. The guide also offers guidance on identifying funding sources to plant trees and highlights the many benefits that trees offer.

"Many Dallas community groups and individuals want to plant trees, but may not be aware of the specifics, the benefits, the recommended shade trees for North Texas and the maintenance. This free tree guide will help." said Kurt Kretsinger, Tree Plantings Team Leader for Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee. The guide is free to all local groups and city residents and is available at several Parks Department offices plus online: www.dallastrees.org and www.GreenDallas.net.

This project is one of many that the Advisory Committee has embarked on in order to preserve Dallas trees and re-beautify the city. Since being established by City Council in 2005, it supported the hiring of the City's first Urban Forester position, planted nearly 2000 trees, and in 2009, hopes to begin the Dallas' first tree inventory program to catalog the city's trees and address the urban heat island problem. The committee's plans provide the basic building blocks to reach its long-term goal of a tree-lined Dallas.

Steve Houser, chairman of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee, adds "The tree guide provides residents basic yet expert level tree-planting guidance which empowers them to beautify and shade their neighborhoods. These are building blocks toward good urban forest management that greatly benefit the livability and sustainability of Dallas."

The free tree guides are available to residents at City Hall's 6th Floor Park Department office and at select Park Recreation Centers. Locations are listed at www.dallastrees.org.

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