

Get Ready to Get Your Hands Dirty at Parker's Arbor Day Celebration

Dig out your shovels, gardening gloves and get ready to get your hands dirty, while helping to green up Parker at the same time. It's all part of the Town of Parker's Arbor Day celebration at Salisbury Park, beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Residents from throughout the Parker area are invited to come and help plant about 40 trees, including smaller ornamental trees, shade trees and evergreens. After the planting is done, members of the Town's Parks and Forestry Team will be available to answer questions about planting, pruning and selecting trees for residents' own yards, while kids will have the opportunity to build and take home a bird house, thanks to Home Depot.

The celebration also kicks off the annual Branching Out Parker tree reimbursement program. Representatives of Parker Parks and Rec will be at a booth to hand out information about the program, which is funded through developer impact fees and provides up to \$300 in funding assistance for Parker residents who plant qualified trees in their yards.

The Town's focus on trees helps it retain its designation as a "Tree City USA," a designation that Parker has held for each of the last 22 years. The Tree City USA® program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

If you plan to help plant some trees, here are a couple things you should know:

You don't need to register for the event. Smiling faces will greet you when you show up Saturday morning with your shovel. (The Town will not be providing shovels, so be sure to bring your own.)

Donuts, coffee, hot chocolate and giveaways will be provided on a first-come, first service basis.

That should take care of the basic info, but if you still have questions, visit www.ParkerRec.com/ArborDay, call 303.805.3263 or email wepps@parkeronline.org.

I can't think of a better way to welcome the growing season!