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Texas Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation Designate Buda with Tree City USA for Third Consecutive Year



BUDA, TEXAS – The Texas Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation recently designated the City of Buda as a Tree City USA city for the third consecutive year. Buda's Sustainability Commission and Parks and Recreation Department collaborate in leading the effort to obtain the distinctive designation.

Known for its small-town charm, as the "Outdoor Capital of Texas," and its mantra to "breathe easy here," the characteristic live oak trees that line Buda's Main Street and populate its parks are impressionable on residents and visitors alike.

The <u>Tree City USA program</u> has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees.

The City of Buda is proud of its Tree City USA designation because we value the natural beauty of this community, have made sustainability a priority, and want to protect natural assets as we grow. Having the Tree City USA designation is an affirmation of our efforts," Buda City Manager Kenneth Williams said.

Nearly 3,700 communities across the country, including 94 in Texas, have earned the Tree City USA designation. Each community has achieved Tree City USA status by meeting <u>four core</u> <u>standards</u> of sound urban forestry management: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day. This year, national Arbor Day will be celebrated April 29.

The City of Buda is home to about 18,000 residents and has earned designations as a "Texas Main Street City," "Tree City USA," "Bee City Affiliate" and "Platinum Level Scenic City." Buda is situated along the Interstate 35 corridor, has 14 parks and a historic downtown district where residents and visitors alike can shop, dine, relax, and *breathe easy here*.