



REQUEST FOR COVERAGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PLANTING OF TREES IN COMMEMORATION OF HARVEY ANNIVERSARY

- WHO:** The Arbor Day Foundation and Texas A&M Forest Service, joined by Mayor Patrick Rios and other City of Rockport officials,
- WHAT:** Will plant three, 45-gallon live oak trees to commemorate the second anniversary of Hurricane Harvey hitting Rockport (August 25, 2017) and to help reforest the devastation it caused
- WHEN:** Sunday, August 25 at 10 am
- WHERE:** Memorial Park, located at the intersection of FM2165/Pearl St and Enterprise

While much progress has been made in the clean-up and rebuilding of Rockport, the damage done to the natural environment is still noticeable. Diminished rookery areas, canopies and shading of properties was severely impacted and is especially noticeable. This is truly a concern for the City and its residents as Rockport is the only recognized Tree City USA[®] community in the Coastal Bend. 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.

This marks the second time that the Arbor Day Foundation and Texas A&M Forest Service have provided trees for the City. Last fall, the three organizations gave away more than 750 trees suitable to the area to residents. A similar program is scheduled for October 25, as well as a major tree planting program in parks throughout the City.

(more)

About the Arbor Day Foundation: Founded in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees, with more than one million members, supporters, and valued partners. Their vision is to help others understand and use trees as a solution to many of the global issues we face today, including air quality, water quality, climate change, deforestation, poverty and hunger. As one of the world's largest operating conservation foundations, the Arbor Day Foundation educates and engages stakeholders and communities across the globe to involve themselves in its mission of planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

About Texas A&M Forest Service: The Texas A&M Forest Service conserves and protects the resources and lands of the Lone Star State. Conserving Texas' trees and forests, the state agency helps property owners maintain land and natural resources to ensure forestlands remain productive and healthy not only for the environment, but for generations of Texans to come.