



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Bryant, Arkansas (Apr 16, 2013) Bryant Parks & Recreation invites you to attend our 2013 Arbor Day Celebration Saturday, April 27, 11:00 AM at Mills Park in Bryant.

The national holiday is celebrated every year on the last Friday in April. Arbor Day this year will be on April 26th. The customary observance is to plant a tree to prevent deforestation. On the first Arbor Day, April 10, 1872, an estimated one million trees were planted.

This year, in the spirit of our recent "Go Green" announcement, the City of Bryant will be celebrating Arbor Day culminating in fun events and historic declarations. Our celebration will begin with the exciting proclamation from The Arbor Day Foundation. Bryant was named a 2013 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the 10th year Bryant has earned the national accreditation. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. "Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Bryant make smart investments in urban forests," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits.".

The Parks Department will also make the announcement of its new Community Gardens. The Bishop Park Community Gardens will consist of 68, 10'x10' raised garden beds intended for community use by permit. Located on the north side of the Bryant Park's Nature Trail, the garden will be a great compliment to Bryant's growing Midtown Farmers Market.

Also "Keep Bryant Beautiful" President Megan Vanderpool will be delivering a short presentation on the program and it's commitment to the citizens of Bryant.

The event will wrap up with nature walk/scavenger hunt with Mayor Dabbs through the trails of Mills Park, bounce houses, food and drinks sponsored by The Bryant Parks and Recreation and Keep Bryant Beautiful.

For more information please visit <u>www.cityofbryant.com</u> or call 501 943-0999 opt. 7. Media Contact: Derek Phillips or Greg Thompson