



300 Country Club Road, Wylie, Texas 75098  
[www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov)

**City of Wylie**  
**Public Information Office**  

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Craig Kelly, Public Information Officer  
Ph: 972.516.6016  
[craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov](mailto:craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov)

**For Immediate Release**

**Wylie Named Tree City USA by Arbor Day Foundation**

**Wylie, TX, March 14, 2014** – The City of Wylie has been named a 2013 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation recognizing Wylie’s commitment to effective urban forest management.

“We are proud to be recognized for our efforts to preserve and grow this valuable resource in our community,” said Mike Sferra, public services director. “The City Council, City Manager, Parks Department, Planning Department and the community have worked as a team to obtain this status.”

“Everyone benefits when communities like Wylie 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.”

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, trees benefit a community in a variety of ways:

- Promote healthier communities by filtering the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles.
- Moderate climate, conserve water and provide vital habitat for wildlife.
- Reduce the heat island effect in urban areas caused by pavement and buildings.
- Reduce energy use and increase property values.

- more -

Wylie achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four Requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

More information about Tree City USA can be found at [www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).

### **About the Arbor Day Foundation**

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit, environmental and education organization of more than one million members, with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

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About Wylie -- Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall Counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 43,000) is one of the fastest growing communities in the State of Texas with a 184% increase since 2000.