

March 13, 2023

Contact: Kristen Pegues
817-444-7076
kpegues@cityofazle.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Azle's Newest Designation: Tree City USA

Azle, Texas – For the first time in its history, the City of Azle has earned recognition as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation effective 2022. The designation is awarded to cities that exhibit a commitment to environmental and suburban harmony.

“We’re very proud to have received this recognition,” City Manager Tom Muir said. “The community has shown solidarity about the environmental benefits of trees. Becoming a Tree City USA is a reflection of the city’s standards as it continues to grow.”

The Arbor Day Foundation evaluates Tree City USA candidates based on four requirements: a tree board, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The City of Azle adopted a Tree Preservation and Public Tree Care Ordinance in 2021 following an influx of residential and commercial development requests. The ordinance prohibits clear-cutting of land and requires developers to submit a tree survey and tree mitigation plan with their construction plans.

Part of the Tree City USA program is focused on education, conservation and new tree planting. According to a press release from the Arbor Day Foundation, trees have a positive impact on property values, outdoor aesthetics and air pollutant removal, among other benefits.

More than 3,600 cities in all 50 states are recognized as Tree City USA communities. More than 163 million Americans make their homes in Tree City USA communities. More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

###