

For Immediate Release

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Memphis Botanic Garden to Host the Official City of Memphis Arbor Day

The Memphis Botanic Garden (MBG) is pleased to host the official City of Memphis Arbor Day Celebration on March 4 at 10 am.

The celebration will include a reading of the Mayor's proclamation, a poem reading by the President of the West Tennessee Chapter of the Urban Forestry Council, tree planting demonstration, tree giveaway, and a tour of the magnificent trees at MBG. Plus children can have some fun learning about trees at a self-guided station in MBG's Visitors Center.

A Chinkapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), donated by long-time MBG supporter Dabney Nursery, will be planted at the Garden. This native tree is very desirable to both birds and mammals.

The tree giveaway includes three types of saplings: Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*). Tree saplings are provided by The Arbor Day Foundation to honor Memphis as a Tree City USA.

Certified Arborist Bo Kelley and Urban Forestry Advisor Linnea West will give a tour through MBG where they will highlight and discuss a selection of native trees. Information ranging from field identification techniques to the historical and cultural significance of the species will be explored throughout the tour.

The event is free and open to the public.

Tennessee Arbor Day Celebration is sponsored by the City of Memphis Division of Parks, Memphis Botanic Garden, Memphis City Beautiful, Memphis Tree Board, West TN Chapter: TN Urban Forestry Council, and Wolf River Conservancy.

The Memphis Botanic Garden is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to being an exemplary center for horticulture and environmental enrichment. Serving over 40,000 school-aged children annually, and hosting 225,000 visitors each year, Memphis Botanic Garden strives to enhance lives by connecting people with nature, increasing awareness and appreciation of our environment.