

*Award of Excellence*

**2008 Gold Leaf  
Arbor Day Award**

*“El Paso Arbor Day”*

*City of El Paso*

**This year’s winner of the 2008 Gold Leaf Award for the best Arbor Day in Texas is El Paso Arbor Day.**



**Mavor of El Paso**  
The Honorable John Cook

**City Council Representatives**

Ann Morgan Lilly	District #1	Rachel Quintana	District #5
Susannah M. Byrd	District #2	Eddie Holguin	District #6
Vacant	District #3	Steve Ortega	District #7
Melina Castro	District #4	Beto O'Rourke	District #8

**City Manager**  
Joyce Wilson

Oncor  
El Paso Tree Board  
Fort Bliss, Texas  
Texas Forest Service  
Keep Texas Beautiful  
Keep El Paso Beautiful  
Texas Forestry Association  
Texas Urban Forestry Council  
National Arbor Day Foundation  
West Texas Urban Forestry Council  
Texas Society of American Foresters  
Texas Nursery and Landscape Association  
Montoya Heights Neighborhood Association  
Mountain Arroyo Neighborhood Association  
Save The Valley Civic/Neighborhood Association  
El Paso Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
International Society of Arboriculture, Texas Chapter

Thank You To Our  
**2008 Texas Arbor Day Sponsors**

The 119th Texas State Arbor Day 2008 in El Paso celebrated on Texas Arbor day – the last Friday in April. It was a wonderful event that bought the community togheter to celebrate tree planting and the benefits of trees in this desert city.



In recent years, the City of El Paso has made great gains in urban forestry. They have passed a tree ordinance, hired a urban forester and have begun systematic and scientific tree care. The 2008 Arbor Day celebration was an opportunity to take stock of these achievements and to look towards the future.



The parks department set up a great event at Veterans Park and all the local dignitaries came out.



Most of these folks have been involved in local politics, business and nonprofits to make trees a reality in the harsh desert climate.



The National Arbor Day Foundation presented the City of El Paso with the Tree City USA award for the first time and statewide utility companies were on hand to receive their Tree Line USA recognition.



The ceremony culminated with all the participants planting the ceremonial trees.



**Please join me in Congratulating all those who made this years El Paso Arbor Day an award winner.**