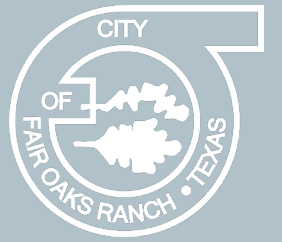


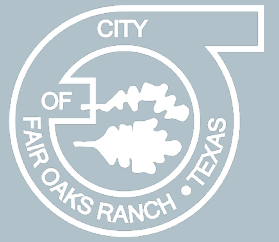


# Tree Preservation Workshop Follow-Up

October 3, 2024



Kelsey Delgado  
Environmental Program Manager



# Background

## February 2023 - City Council Workshop

- Discussed the City's current Tree Preservation Ordinances.
- Presented detailed examples of tree preservation ordinances from other cities (Boerne, Bulverde, Bellaire, West University Place).
- Discussed potential updates to protect trees on private property, Tree City USA recognition, and oak wilt fund.

# Where are we now?

## Tree City USA

- July 2023 – Amended Code of Ordinances Article 1.07 Trees and Shrubs, Division 2, Tree Maintenance.
  - Assigned the authority and responsibility over public trees.
- Obtained Tree City USA recognition for 2023 and celebrated Arbor Day April 2024.





Oak Wilt Program

Home > Resident Services > Environmental Stewardship > Oak Wilt > Oak Wilt Program

### Oak Wilt Program


#### The Oak Wilt Program: What You Need to Know

In May 2024, Fair Oaks Ranch City Council approved a resolution establishing a Tree Mitigation Fund and creating the Oak Wilt Program. This initiative provides annual funds to incentivize and aid in oak wilt treatment within the city limits through a reimbursement process. Property owners who participate in the program may be eligible for reimbursement of up to 50% of the total cost of eligible services, with a maximum reimbursement amount of \$1,500 per property per fiscal year.


**Funding for the remainder FY 2023-24 is currently unavailable.** Additional funding for FY 2024-25 will be requested during the City's annual budgeting process. Please check back in October 2024.

#### Services Eligible for Reimbursement:

1. **Injectable Therapeutic and/or Preventative Treatment**
2. **Removal of Diseased Red Oak Trees**
3. **Trenching to contain an Oak Wilt center**



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### Fair Oaks Ranch Oak Wilt Treatment Reimbursement Request

Please read the following information to determine if you qualify for reimbursement:

The City of Fair Oaks Ranch is making funds available to its citizens to incentivize and assist in oak wilt treatment within its city limits. Reimbursement from approved applications is on a first-come, first-served basis and will only be processed when funds are available. Specific guidelines must be followed to be eligible for reimbursement through this program.

*Guidelines*

To be eligible for reimbursement, a property must have a confirmed diagnosis of oak wilt or be at risk of getting oak wilt due to its proximity to an infected property as determined by a certified arborist. All treatment must be completed by a certified arborist. To receive reimbursement, an invoice from an approved City of Fair Oaks Ranch registered tree contractor and treatment plan must be provided to the City alongside the application no later than 30 days after treatment has been completed.

**Services Eligible for Reimbursement:**

- 1) **Injectable Therapeutic and/or Preventative Treatment**
- 2) **Removal of Diseased Red Oak Trees**
- 3) **Trenching to contain an Oak Wilt center**

Applicants are eligible for reimbursement of up to 50% of the total cost of eligible services, with a maximum payout of \$1,500 per fiscal year per property.

*Reimbursement Process*

The Environmental Program Manager will gather the application, invoice and treatment plan from the property owner, ensure all requirements are met, and will determine the eligible reimbursement amount. A determination of the request shall be approved by the Manager of Engineering Services. Reimbursement to the applicant will be made within 30 days of application approval. Any applications for ineligible services or incomplete applications will not be processed until a corrected or complete application is received.

Fill out all information completely and attach supporting documentation.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Arborist: \_\_\_\_\_ Oak Wilt Qualified No: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

Therapeutic/Preventative Treatment     Removal of Diseased Red Oak     Trenching

Description of Treatment: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected / Completed Treatment Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am requesting reimbursement for oak wilt treatment that was completed on my property. I acknowledge that if my application is approved, reimbursement will be up to 50% of the total cost of eligible services, with a maximum payment of \$1,500 per fiscal year per property.

I acknowledge a paid receipt/invoice for treatment and a treatment plan from a certified arborist is attached as required to review my request.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Requestor shall submit this form, a W-9 form, and all required attachments within 30 days of treatment.

**OAK WILT TREATMENT REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS ALL INFORMATION IS COMPLETED AND ALL REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IS ATTACHED.**

# Where are we now?

## Oak Wilt Program

- April 2024 - Tree Mitigation Fund established.
  - Funds collected from developers are reserved for specific uses.
- May 2024 - Oak Wilt Program established.
  - Budget amendment allocated \$10,000 for the remainder of FY2023-24.
  - FY2024-25 budget allocates \$15,000 for the program.

# For FY2023-24:

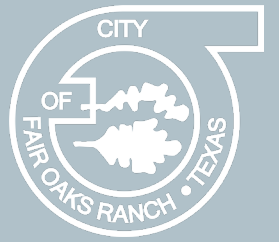
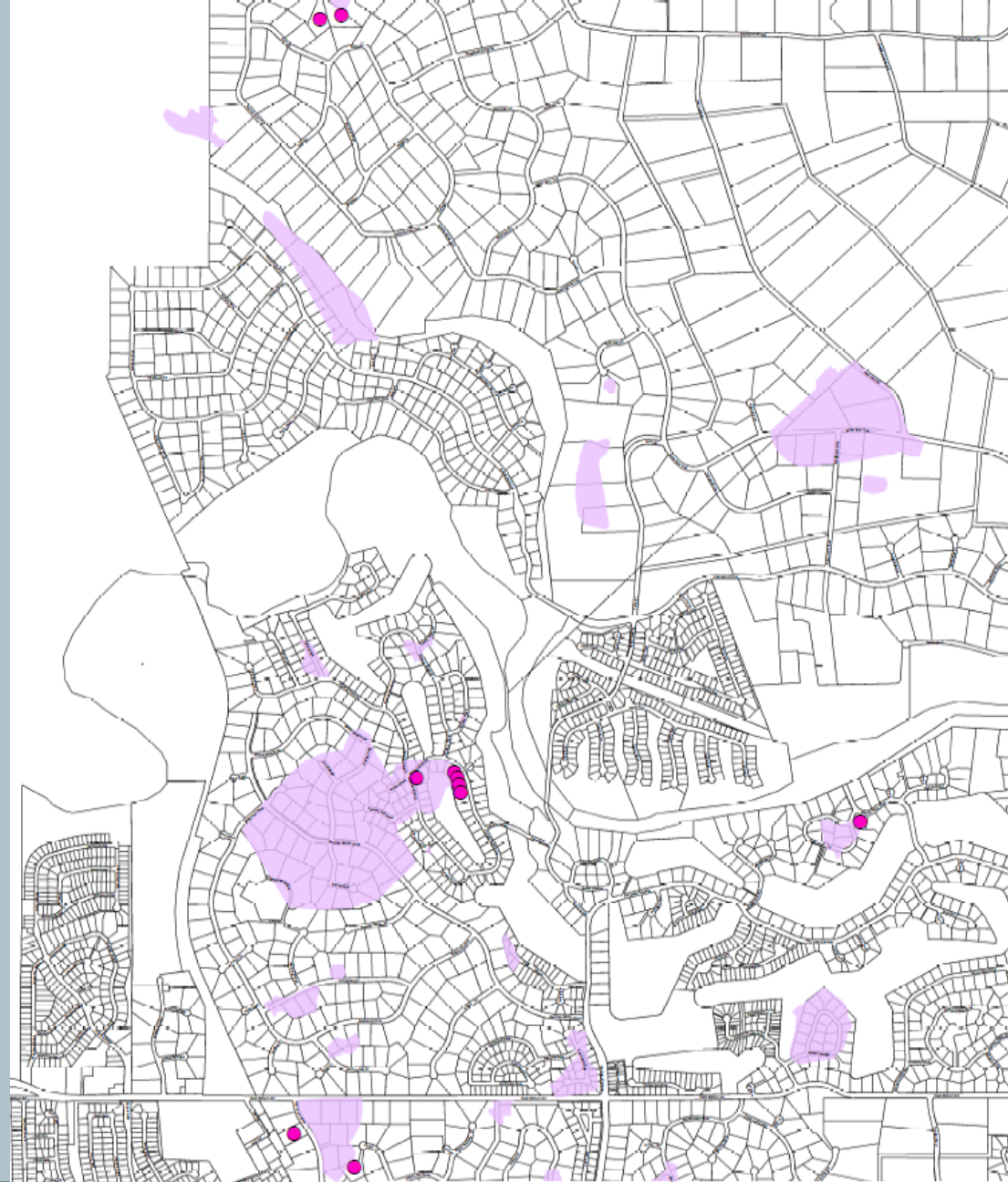
Applications Approved: 10

Total Treatment Cost: \$40,995.49

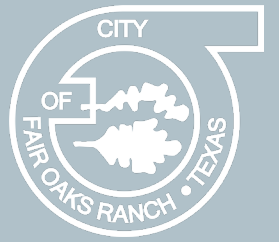
Funds Reimbursed: \$10,000

Lowest Reimbursement: \$340.99

Highest Reimbursement: \$1,500



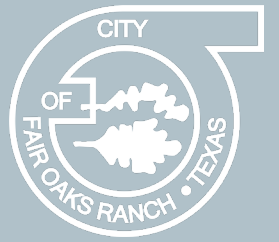
-  Affected Area
-  Approved Application



# Considerations

What more can we do to preserve our urban canopy?

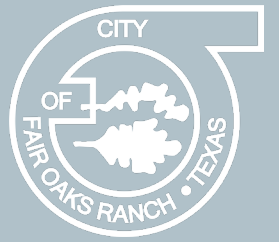
# February 2023 Tree Preservation Workshop – Private Property



The following suggestions were discussed at the previous Tree Preservation Workshop.

- Require a Tree Preservation Plan for the removal of trees on private lands.
- Implement a permit process to remove any Protected Tree (28” circumference/ 9” diameter).
- Disallow the removal of any Heritage Tree (75” circumference/ 24” diameter) without City Council Approval.
- Permit shall require mitigation of all circumference inches removed in a 1:1 TC ratio.
- Trees planted for mitigation shall be planted on site; if unable to replant on site, trees may be planted at a different location with city approval.

# February 2023 Tree Preservation Workshop – Private Property

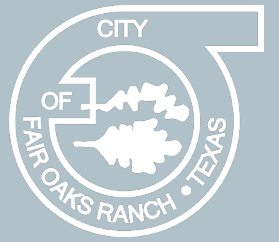


## Exceptions:

- Location: Tree is within 10 ft of building footprint (new or existing) or within the footprint of a permitted project.
- Trees diseased or dead.
- Exempted Species such as Hackberry, Chinaberry and Ligustrum or Ashe Juniper and Mesquite under 48 diameter inches.



# Tree Preservation - Private Property



- Disallow the removal of Heritage Trees (24” diameter) without a permit.
- Permit allows for the removal of a Heritage Tree meeting specific reasons:
  - Location: Tree is within 10 ft of building footprint (new or existing) or within the footprint of a permitted project.
  - Tree is dead, diseased or deemed hazardous.
  - Exempted Tree Species such as Hackberry, Chinaberry and Ligustrum.
- Potentially require mitigation for the removal of a Heritage Tree through means of replanting or fee.

Note: Tree protection for private property is allowable due to the city’s close proximity to a military installation. Otherwise, state law prohibits the regulation of trees for private property.



## Enforcement

Education based approach.

Information provided during the building permit or project permit process.

Complaint driven or by staff observation.



## Violations

Heritage Tree removal without a Permit.

Heritage Tree removal inconsistent with Permit.

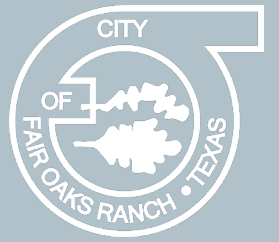
Violation by Act of Omission.



## Penalties

Fine for the unauthorized removal of trees.

Property Owners may have the opportunity to remedy the fine by mitigating OR submitting an appeal.



# Questions or Suggestions?