

NEWS RELEASE 01/ 10/ 2025 MAYOR Renard U. Johnson

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City of El Paso Invites Community to Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day with Tree Planting Event

EL PASO, Texas—The El Paso Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with the 915 Tree Keepers Program, invites the community to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day by participating in a meaningful day of service.

Volunteers are needed to assist with a tree planting project at Washington Park.

This initiative will take place on **Saturday, January 18**, from **8 a.m. to 11 a.m.**, or until all trees are planted. Volunteers will meet in the main parking lot of Washington Park, located at 4201 E. Paisano Drive. Carpooling is encouraged to minimize environmental impact.

As part of the 915 Tree Keepers' mission to improve Tree Equity in underserved areas, participants will help plant **24 trees** at the park.

Since fall 2024, the program has successfully planted nearly **200 trees** in collaboration with the City's Parks and Recreation and the Streets and Maintenance departments.

The 915 Tree Keepers Program engages the community in environmental stewardship by providing opportunities for residents to plant and care for trees, helping to improve air quality, reduce urban heat, and beautify neighborhoods. To learn more about the program, visit <u>915 Tree Keepers website</u>.

What to Know Before You Go:

- Dress in layers for cooler morning weather; the event will proceed rain or shine.
- Wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, and weather-appropriate clothing.
- Tools, gloves, and light refreshments will be provided.

How to Register:

To join this impactful event, register <u>via this link</u> or call **915-337-2444**. Minors under 18 must submit a signed consent form, available <u>via this link</u>.

This tree planting event is one of many ways the El Paso community can celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. Established as a National Day of Service in 1994, MLK Day encourages Americans to strengthen their communities and serve others in honor of Dr. King's life and work.

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