

Golf Club, City Go Out On A Limb

HOPE RESIDENTS,
SERVICE GROUPS WILL
DONATE TREES

By PAUL CATALA
Correspondent

With the help of local residents, life around Temple Terrace should start getting a little shadier.

Although it's been in the works since last April, an agreement between the city of Temple Terrace, the Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club, the Citizens for the Revitalization of Temple Terrace and other local organizations has begun to bring more tree canopy into the area.

Details for a program to get residents and businesses to get involved in buying native trees for the golf course have been finalized and the first \$500 donation to the Golf Course Donation Tree Program has been made.

With a \$500 donation, residents or businesses can get trees onto the city-owned Temple Terrace 150-acre, 18-hole golf course. The trees will be native to the area, such as longleaf pine and live oaks.

The formal agreement was put together because the tree canopy along the golf course has become depleted over the years, due mostly to lightning strikes and diseases. And, until recently, there has been no course of action in place to help replenish the trees.

Grant Rimbey, president of the Citizens for the Revitalization of Temple Terrace, said the revitalization group made the first \$500 donation to help get the ball rolling. He believes the initiative will help residents become active in sprucing up the city.

"It (the money) goes a long way as far as beautification for the city-owned land goes," said Rimbey, who's also served



PAUL CATALA/Photo

Grant Rimbey, president of the Citizens for the Revitalization of Temple Terrace, looks over one of the young longleaf pine trees planted along the fair way of the Temple Terrace Golf Course's seventh hole. In the past year he and other CRTT member have planted pines along the rough in an effort to grow more of the city's indigenous pines.

as president of the Temple Terrace Preservation Society. "It's a way for citizens to get active in the beautification of the city."

The six-step procedure for donating and planting the trees is:

- Every Year the golf course will provide the city with a list of 25 to 30 native trees and suggested locations. Then, together the golf course manager and a city liaison will determine the species and quantity of each.

- The donors and city may provide trees en masse to the golf course, but it's the city's responsibility to inspect their condition, quality and size prior to their planting.

- The golf course will plant and maintain the trees while the city inspects their maintenance.

- The golf course will replace trees that die within a year of planting.

- The golf course will be allowed to relocate trees as a last resort but must notify the city before doing so.

- Donor, golf course and city representative will meet annually to review the program.

Golf course superintendent Doug Hughes and city parks planner Dana Carver hope the program will encourage residents to help preserve the city's tree line, one of the most visible traits of the area.

Last May, Carver met with Hughes and Rimbey to discuss formalizing the tree donation program. He said that meeting helped solidify a plan to get everyone — including Mayor Joe Affronti and city council members — involved in the

tree program.

"The city feels it's important that we can work together to take care of the canopy," Carver said. "When people do this, it's going to add to the quality of life we have here in Temple Terrace, part of that being an outstanding tree canopy."

To participate, any civic group or resident of Temple Terrace may donate trees purchased from local nurseries valued from \$10 to \$250 each, as long as they fit into the donation tree procedures.

Golf course superintendent Doug Hughes said he was glad to see the initiative coming together, especially with trees regularly dying or being removed.

"It's going to be good not

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only for the country club, but for everyone," he said. "We now have a program in place that everyone can participate in."

The first donation of 25 trees by the Citizens for the Revitalization of Temple Terrace is mostly being planted south of Bullard Parkway.

They include three sand live oaks on fairways two, five and 13; three longleaf pines between the fourth and fifth fairway; six bald cypress

around the pond of the seventh fairway; and 13 redbud or Chickasaw plumb on fairways two, five, six, nine and 10 and tees 11 and 17.

Also involved in the program is the Temple Terrace Garden Club, Friends of the Temple Terrace Parks and Recreation Department and the Temple Terrace Preservation Society.

For more information or to donate, call the Temple Terrace Parks and Recreation Department, 989-7180.