

**Melanie Phillips**, Director and Secretary



Ms. Phillips has a Bachelor's Degree in Architectural Engineering with emphasis in Construction, graduating from the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1991. After serving 25 years in the industrial and commercial construction management industry, Ms. Phillips started her own private sector General Contracting business, specializing in low maintenance/xeroscape landscape design/installation and small home renovation and repair projects.

Ms. Phillips' love of the natural environment has led her to bring awareness to City officials of Smithville, Texas, where she resides, of how the rapid development of the area without specific tree protection ordinances is endangering the lives of some of the largest and oldest trees in Smithville.

She has a strong interest in the protection of our rivers and bays, for ecological as well as recreational purposes, with particular interest in the Colorado River and Lavaca and Matagorda Bays, where she spends most of her free time recreating and reflecting. Ms. Phillips understands the symbiotic relationship we have with our natural environment and is an advocate of educating others to come to the same understanding – that when we harm our natural environment, we harm ourselves. She emphatically believes that there is a way to sustain all of life if we will work together toward that common goal.