



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summertime Fun & Adventure In Houston Parks

Summer vacation is fast approaching, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department has lots to offer for outdoor fun and learning! The 2008 Summer Activities in the Park Catalog has a long list of sports, activity, and learning opportunities lined up and ready to go, with something for everyone's tastes and abilities. It is available on line at www.houstonparks.org and at community centers across town.

The Memorial Day weekend will kick off with a splash. All 38 Houston Parks and Recreation Department swimming pools will open for summer fun on Saturday, May 24. The swim season will run through Labor Day, with pool hours being 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. daily, except Mondays. Pools will operate on Memorial Day and Labor Day Mondays from 1:00 – 8:00 p.m. Check the 2008 Summer Activities in the Park Catalog, available at community centers across the city, or online at www.houstonparks.org for a complete list of pool locations.

With the end of the school year, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department has two programs that offer fun activities and healthy meals for school aged children.

The Summer Enrichment Program is a 10-week, fun- and activity-filled program open to children from 6- 13 years of age. The day camp runs from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., and registered youth will have a variety of activities to fill their days. Arts and crafts, sports, games, water fun, nature exploration, and entertainment are being planned at HPARD community centers. The cost is \$30.00 per child per week. Parents interested in registering their children can consult with the staff at their nearest community center for details on programs.

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The Summer Food Service Program offers FREE lunches and snacks to children aged 1 – 18 at locations throughout the city, including all HPARD community centers. The program will run from June 2 – August 15, with meals served from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and a healthy snack offered from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. There is no registration required for this FREE program. It is sponsored by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Division.

Summer is a time for fun and recreation in the outdoors, and there is ample opportunity for safe, healthy activity in Houston parks. From pools to ball fields to walks in the woods, there is something for everybody in Houston!

For more information on municipal pools, the Summer Enrichment Program, and the Summer Food Service Program, please call (713) 865-4537 or visit www.houstonparks.org.