



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2009

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Volunteers Needed For 3rd Annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Planting Project *50 ACRES OF LAND TO BE PLANTED BY VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS*

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department will hold its Third Annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Project on Saturday, September 26, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at various sites across Houston. The project follows in the footsteps of Lady Bird Johnson and her dedication to the beautification of the nation's cities and highways and conservation of natural resources.

"We are looking forward to a great day for planting this coming Saturday," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "The past two years, volunteers have made such a difference in our city's springtime landscape through their efforts in the fall. Houstonians are always willing to lend a helping hand for a worthy cause. We're hoping they will respond to our request and join us on the 26th to plant wildflowers and carry on this tradition in Lady Bird's honor."

Fifty acres of parkland, esplanades, and bayou areas have been selected and prepared for planting. Volunteers are needed to plant the following sites: the South Braeswood esplanades near Linkwood, Mason Park, Sylvan Rodriguez Park, Stude Park, and Willow Waterhole Park at the Rafferty Memorial.

"We'll be planting Bluebonnets, Indian Paintbrushes, Evening Primrose and a Drummond Phlox mix," said T.J. Marks, HPARD Division Manager of the Horticulture Division. "It's not a strenuous project and should be a fun one for families to participate in. We look forward to seeing a lot of volunteers on Saturday."

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Seeds and instructions will be provided at each site on planting date. Volunteers are asked to dress for the outdoors and wear closed toed shoes and be on time. Children are welcome when accompanied by a parent. Registration is encouraged prior to the event but not required. Site maps are available on line at www.houstonparks.org. To register, contact Oneika McCarthy at (713) 865-9348 or oneikamccarthy@cityofhouston.net.

For more information on the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Project or the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, please call (713) 865-4537 or visit us online at www.houstonparks.org.