

NEWS RELEASE

September 17, 2010

CONTACT: Estella Espinosa
Work (832) 395-7022
Cell (832) 465-4782

4th Annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Planting Volunteers Still Needed for Two Sites

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department's 4th Annual Lady Bird Johnson Tribute Wildflower Planting Project will begin on Saturday, September 18, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. at seven planting sites across Houston. H.P.A.R.D. corporate partners will be planting at three sites and H.P.A.R.D., with the help of volunteers from the community, will plant the remaining four sites.

"Four years ago we began planting wildflower seeds in our parks and greenspaces as a tribute to one of our country's best known First Ladies, Lady Bird Johnson," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "Houstonians responded enthusiastically to our call for volunteers that first year and every year since then. By volunteering to plant wildflower seeds to beautify our city, they honor Lady Bird Johnson's memory and her contributions to environmental stewardship."

H.P.A.R.D., with the help of volunteers, will plant four sites, including the East Orem Esplanades, the West Orem Esplanades, Spurlock Parkway, and Mason Park. **Additional volunteers are needed at the East Orem and West Orem Esplanades.** Individuals interested in volunteering for the East Orem Esplanades can park and register at the B.L.O.C.K., 12707 Cullen Boulevard, 77067. Individuals interested in volunteering for the West Orem Esplanades can park and register at the Crossing Community Church, located at 3225 W. Orem Drive, 77045.

H.P.A.R.D. corporate sponsors will plant three sites with volunteers from their own companies. The corporate sponsors include Occidental Oil & Gas, who will plant the cloverleaf at Memorial Drive and Waugh; Shell, who will plant the Hike & Bike trail at Addicks Reservoir; and Cameron International, who will plant the Old Katy Road Esplanades. No additional volunteers are needed for these sites.

All volunteers are advised to dress comfortably for working outside and bring their own gloves and water. A volunteer waiver is required and children must be accompanied by parent or guardian. No pets, please.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,992 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Lady Bird Johnson Tribute Wildflower Planting or the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.