houston PARKS & recreation department
www.houstonparks.org
A CAPRA Accredited Agency

NEWS RELEASE

March 24, 2010

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

Wildflowers in Full Bloom across Houston

3rd Annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Brings Spring Blooms to Parkland and Greenspaces across Houston

Wildflowers are bursting into bloom all over Houston through the efforts of volunteers last fall. HPARD's Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting project honors the former First Lady's passion for the environment and nature by enlisting volunteers to plant wildflower seeds in select parkland and Greenspace areas. Since the first planting in 2007, it is widely regarded as one of the high points of springtime in Houston.

"I hope everyone will take a moment to stop and enjoy the beautiful wildflowers blooming across our parkland," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "I have to say thank you to all the enthusiastic volunteers who came out last fall to help us with this project. You can see the results of their hard work today all across Houston."

Fifty acres were seeded in September. These wildflower beds and some planted in previous years can be seen at the following sites: the South Braeswood esplanades near Linkwood, Mason Park, Sylvan Rodriguez Park, Stude Park, the Rafferty Memorial in Willow Waterhole Park, Memorial Drive at I-610, the Memorial Drive/Waugh Drive cloverleaf intersection, T.C. Jester Boulevard at I-610, the Columbia Tap Trailhead, Almeda Road between Old Spanish Trail and El Paseo, and Reed Road between Almeda Road and Highway 288. A variety of flower species was planted, including blue bonnets, Indian paintbrushes, Evening Primrose, and Drummond Phlox. Depending on the weather and the growth patterns of the flower varieties, some will bloom earlier than others, ensuring a long springtime of extravagant color.

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.

- 30 –