



---

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 5, 2022

**CONTACT: Estella Espinosa**

Work: (832) 395-7022

Cell: (832) 465-4782

### **THIS JULY, "WE RISE UP FOR PARKS AND RECREATION" AT HOUSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

*Month-long celebration highlights the impact of parks and recreation*

This July, join the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for *Park and Recreation Month*, as we celebrate how the City of Houston is stronger, more vibrant, and more resilient because of parks and recreation. A variety of activities are planned, including horticulture education workshops, healthy eating and nutrition workshops, bike safety education, water conservation presentations, cultural arts presentations, instructional sports, STEM education, archery, and outdoor environmental educational programming.

"There is no better way to kick off summer than by enjoying it at one of the City's many neighborhood parks where there is something for everyone," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "I am looking forward to celebrating *Park and Recreation Month* this July and invite all Houstonians to take advantage of HPARD's *Summer Enrichment Program*."

*Park and Recreation Month* is an initiative of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) which invites the community to share their stories about what parks and recreation mean to them. HPARD's Summer Enrichment Program locations will provide photos to illustrate how parks and recreation have improved the quality of life, and participants will share why parks and recreation professionals are important to them, using the hashtag *#RiseUpJuly*.

"There is no question that parks and recreation have a huge positive impact on the lives of Houstonians," said Kenneth Allen, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "I believe our Parks and Recreation system is among the best in the nation. We join NRPA in urging everyone to celebrate our parks and everything they have to offer during *Park and Recreation Month*."

On Friday, July 15th, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department will celebrate *Park and Recreation Professionals Day* by recognizing staffers who are responsible for delivering high-quality experiences and opportunities to the population we serve. To learn more about *Park and Recreation Month*, visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org) and [www.nrpa.org/July](http://www.nrpa.org/July).

**About the National Recreation and Park Association**

*The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. With more than 60,000 members, NRPA advances this mission by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals and advocates – the catalysts for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. For more information, visit [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org). For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, Parks & Recreation, visit [www.parksandrecreation.org](http://www.parksandrecreation.org).*

**About Houston Parks and Recreation Department**

*The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages 381 parks and over 39,501 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all ages and abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).*