

**Bastrop, TX Parks Board and  
Public Tree Advisory Board  
Meeting Agenda  
Bastrop City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
1311 Chestnut Street  
Bastrop, TX 78602  
(512) 332-8800**



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**March 1, 2018, at 6:00 P.M.**

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*City of Bastrop Parks Board and Public Tree Advisory Board meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at (512) 332-8800, or write to 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, TX 78602, or call Relay Texas through a T.D.D. (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) at 1-800-735-2989 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**3. STAFF, BOARD, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 3A. Monthly operational report from the Parks and Recreation Department.
- 3B. Monthly operational report from the Bastrop State Park.
- 3C. Monthly operational report from the Bastrop YMCA.
- 3D. Monthly operational report from the Youth Parks Activity Committee (YPAC).

**4. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*At this time, three (3) minute comments will be taken from the audience on any topic. To address the Board, please submit a fully completed request card to the Board chairperson prior to the beginning of the Citizens' Comment portion of the Board meeting. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, if a citizen discusses any item not on the agenda, city Boards cannot discuss issues raised or make any decision at this time. Instead, city Boards are limited to making a statement of specific information or a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry. Issues may be referred to city staff for research and possible future action.*

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**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5A. Consider action to approve Parks and Public Tree Advisory Board minutes from the February 1, 2018 regular meeting.

**6. WORK SESSION**

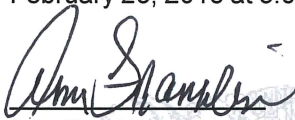
- 6A. Update on wheeled sports complex to be located in Fisherman's Park by Burditt.
- 6B. Review and discuss programs through the National Wildlife Federation.
- 6C. Planning workshop to discuss potential funding sources for the city parks system.

**7. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

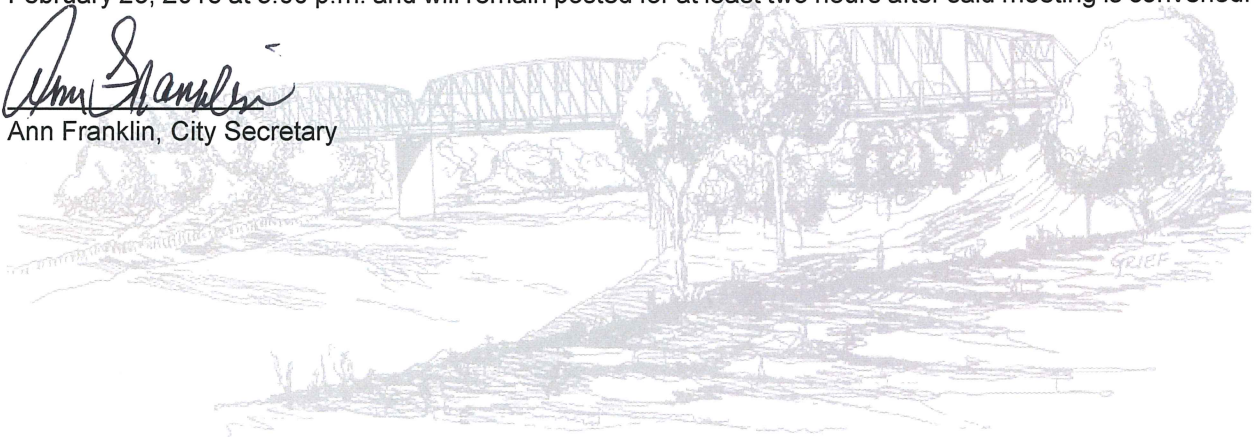
- 7A. Discuss and consider action on scheduling a date for a public meeting in regard to the empty lot located across from the Kerr Community Park at the Kerr Community Center
- 7B. Discuss and consider action on items for placement on next month's agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting is posted in accordance with the regulations of the Texas Open Meetings Act on the bulletin board located at the entrance to the City of Bastrop City Hall, a place of convenience that is readily accessible to the general public, as well as to the City's website, [www.cityofbastrop.org](http://www.cityofbastrop.org). Said Notice was posted on the following date and time: Friday, February 23, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. and will remain posted for at least two hours after said meeting is convened.



Ann Franklin, City Secretary





# STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 1, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3A.

**TITLE:**

Monthly operational report from the Parks and Recreation Department

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services  
David Junek, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the board with updates on past and current projects. This allows the board to share a message to the community.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Word Document Handout





**BASTROPTX**  
Heart of the Lost Pines / Est. 1832

## Parks and Recreation February Report

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- Supported the Small Town Business Revolution efforts
- Replaced soccer goal, basketball, and volleyball nets at the parks
- Performed monthly inspection/repairs of all irrigation systems
- Replaced old bleacher boards at Fireman's softball field and Little League Fields
- Removed graffiti at Fisherman's and Hunter's Crossing
- Repainted interior and "deep cleaned" Fisherman's Park lower restrooms
- Repainted interior of Mayfest restrooms
- 3 pavilion rentals (2 at Bob Bryant and 1 at Fisherman's)
- Entire crew attended safety training
- Worked the Run for the Bluebonnets 5K





# STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3B.

**TITLE:**

Monthly operational report from the Bastrop State Park

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Jamie Creacy, Park Superintendent

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

This is the time reserved for staff or Board representatives to go over the activities for the past month and to share any upcoming events with the Board.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Monthly Operations Handout
- Bastrop & Buescher State Park March Programs Calendar



# Bastrop State Park

**March 1, 2018**

## **Revenue/Visitation (January)**

- Revenue down 2% from January 2017; down 12% for the year
- Visitation down 6% from January 2017; down 7% for the year

## **Programming/Interpretation (March)**

- See attached schedule

## **Natural Resource Management**

- RxFire – 418 acres completed this fire season

## **Projects**

- Group Barracks renovation ongoing
- Dam project in engineering/design phase

## **Staffing**

- Park Operations Trainee – Selected a candidate
- Park Interpreter/Volunteer Coordinator – Reviewing Applications
- Maintenance Specialist – Will be posting soon
- Buescher Site Manager – Will be posting soon

## Bastrop State Park - March Programs



03/03

### ***Naturalists: Then and Now (10-11am)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/10

### ***The Lost Pines Legacy (10-11am)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/10

### ***Out of the Ashes (3-4pm)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/13

### ***Digital Scavenger Hunt (1-430pm)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Cell phone or other digital camera for selfies, close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy! Explore both Bastrop and Buescher state parks as you try to find everything on the list.



03/15

### ***Become an Animal of the Park (1-2pm)***

Meet: Historic Golf Shelter

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy! Short walk and animal mimicry. Fun for the whole family and stroller friendly.



03/17

### ***The Lost Pines Legacy (10-11am)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/17

### ***Geology Rocks (1-2pm)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/17

### ***How Parks Saved the Country - CCC (2-3pm)***

Meet: In front of Refectory

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy walk! All ages welcome.



03/24

### ***The Lost Pines Legacy (10-11am)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/24

### ***Out of the Ashes (1-2pm)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/31

### ***Predators of the Pines (10-11am)***

Meet: Playground

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



03/31

### ***Become an Animal of the Park (3-4pm)***

Meet: Historic Golf Shelter

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy! Short walk and animal mimicry. Fun for the whole family and stroller friendly.



# Buescher State Park - March Programs

03/03



## ***Tiny Predators; Tiny Prey (10-11am)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.

03/10



## ***Predators of the Pines (10-11am)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.

03/10



## ***Poetry in the Park - a Junior Ranger Activity (1-2pm)***

Meet: In the field across from Big Tree Trailhead

Bring: Pencil, notebook, close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy! Most enjoyable for ages 6 and up. Everyone is welcome.

03/13 \*TUESDAY\*



## ***Digital Scavenger Hunt (1-430pm)***

Meet: In BASTROP state park at the playground

Bring: Cell phone or other digital camera for selfies, close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy! Explore both Bastrop and Buescher state parks as you try to find everything on the list.

03/16 \*FRIDAY\*



## ***Life in the Civilian Conservation Corps (10-11am)***

Meet: Lakeview Pavilion

Bring: Close toed shoes, water, sunscreen

Difficulty: Easy walk! All ages welcome.

03/17



## ***The Animals Around Us (10-11am)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.

03/24



## ***Predators of the Pines (10-11am)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.

03/31



## ***The Animals Around Us (10-11am)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.

03/31



## ***Leave No Trace - a Junior Ranger Activity (1-2pm)***

Meet: Blue Trailhead near walk-in sites

Bring: Water, sunscreen, close toed shoes

Difficulty: Moderate activity level, some elevation changes and uneven terrain, 1 mile hike.



More to Explore!  
Find us on Facebook





# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3C.

**TITLE:**

Monthly operational report from the Bastrop YMCA

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Terry Moore, YMCA Director

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

This is the time reserved for staff or Board representatives to go over the activities for the past month and to share any upcoming events with the Board.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None provided



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3D.

**TITLE:**

Monthly operational report from the Youth Parks Activity Committee (YPAC)

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Allison Hewett, YPAC Representative

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

This is the time reserved for staff or Board representatives to go over the activities for the past month and to share any upcoming events with the Board.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None provided





# STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5A.

**TITLE:**

Consider action to approve Parks and Public Tree Advisory Board minutes from the February 1, 2018 regular meeting.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

N/A

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

Section 551.021 of the Government Code provides as follows:

- (a) A governmental body shall prepare and keep minutes or make a tape recording of each open meeting of the body.
- (b) The minutes must:
  1. State the subject of each deliberation; and
  2. Indicate the vote, order, decision, or other action taken.

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider action to approve Park and Public Tree Advisory Board minutes from the February 1, 2018 meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- February 1, 2018, DRAFT Regular Meeting Minutes

*City of Bastrop, TX  
Parks Board and  
Public Tree Advisory Board Meeting  
MINUTES*

*Bastrop City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
1311 Chestnut Street  
Bastrop, TX 78602  
(512) 332-8800*



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*February 1, 2018, at 6:00 P.M.*

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
  - 1A. MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:04PM
  
2. **ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM OF BOARDS MEMBERS PRESENT**
  - 2A. THOSE ABSENT WAS MITCHELL HARDIN, BARBARA WOLANSKI, ALLISON HEWETT
  
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - 3A. Discuss and consider action to approve Minutes from the October 05, 2017, Board meeting.
    - Dorothy made motion to approve Minutes as read. Seconded by Kelly Dawson which passed by all.
  
4. **STAFF, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - 4A. Parks & Recreation Department – David Junek, PARD Superintendent filled in for Trey
    - Monthly overview of events, maintenance, repairs, and projects.
    - Cleaned all of the dead trees in Fisherman Park along the Nature trails had about 13 dead trees making a little beach area.
    - Assisted in cutting down dead trees in the Cemetery.
    - The mowing was contracted out and they started today, they were amazed that we could do everything that was done with only two mowers. This would free up 200 man hours in a week for the City guys to be able to do more.
    - Next big event is not till March, unless we have a celebration on if the city win the Small Business Award to be announced 02/13

- Dorothy asked if Trey was able to confirm the meeting dates with the Kerr Center, per David he did not know.

4B. Bastrop State Park – Jamie Creacy, Superintendent

- Monthly overview of events, maintenance, repairs, and projects.
- Revenue was up 16% from December 2016 – 14% Down for the year.
- Visitation down 3% from December 2016, down 8% for the year
- Campsites are full every weekend through May and Spring Break is already full
- Group Barracks renovation is ongoing should open Sept/Oct 2018 they hold 56
- Tree Planting has been completed – 200,000 trees planted some along the road on the Golf course area
- Still planning on the Golf course t has been submitted for review to the Parks board.
- Did the last RXFire burn, this one really got the attention a lot of calls. 284 Acres total – done for the year
- Cabin 1
- Ran into some issues on engineering with the cost and design, but back up rolling again August 2019 to have contract in place.
- Park Operations Trainee position has received 240 applications to sort through.
- Park Interpreter/Volunteer Coordinator position – received 161 applications to sort through.
- Yoga classes was changed to Wednesday and Sunday Mornings

4C. YMCA – Terry Moore, Director (Terry was not in attendance)

- Monthly overview of projects and activities.

4D. Youth Parks Activity Committee – Allison Hewett (Alliston was not able to attend)

- Monthly overview of projects and activities.
- David did report that the exercise equipment is being used a lot by the kids

**5. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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**6. WORK SESSION**

Closed Regular session at 6:18 to go into work session

6A. Update on wheels sports complex to be located in Fisherman's Park

- Charles Burditt was again in attendance to give us an update and he brought with him Diane Wilson – was a part of the Art Culture project so she knows the area.
- Mr. Burditt brought with him a printout of Improvements packet of information
- Shows a list of our interested that we discussed last meeting and out in to 4 categorizes Goals, Facts, Concepts, Needs
- Next page showed Existing Conditions – pictures of problems area of concern Paths, Topography and Vegetation (drainage, overhead utilities, vegetation area)
- Next page was Site Analysis Diagram of all the areas around, entrance roads Forested, Current Family Recreation, Active Zone



- Next page was Comparable Sites outlined out from other Parks (Smithville, Lockhart, Bryan, College Station) had a colored highlighted outline of each of these parks and laid them on top of our area to see which one would fit our area. We all agreed and liked the Conroe one and Charles stated the estimated cost was about \$600,000

**6B Agenda & Staff Reports Due Dates – David Junek**

- David will send out the dates. The City Manager has outlined new requirements for the agendas of all board and commissions. This work session is to educate the Parks Board on the requirements and the due dates for the staff reports and agenda each month.

**6C. Discuss a plan to develop a dedicated funding source for the city parks system**

- Need 40% operating Budget
- Need to discuss how we can raise money to be able to add to parks. One thing that was discussed was the River usage (River Company), exercise groups that are using our parks or a service that people pay for and the parks gets nothing from them. Lease out concession stand or add food court vendors to host for our larger events. Note per David: our two largest event now are Car Show and Bastrop Homecoming

**7. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

**7A. Discuss and consider action on the following:**

- Search for new Youth Representative. - ongoing
- The committee picked 3 dates for the Public hearing March 5, 16, or 26<sup>th</sup> for Trey to see if Kerr Center is available to have to discuss development of a park on property across from Kerr Center. \*\*Still have not gotten confirmation of dates we selected.
- Trey, David & Charles Burkett to schedule Public meeting for wheeled sports complex.

**7B. Discuss and consider action on items for placement on next month's agenda.**

- None was received so this was tabled till next month - Application review or status of applicants for Allison Replacement
- Jamie made a Motion to Schedule a date for Planning Workshop to discuss Business Plan, motion was seconded by Dorothy

**7C. Future Agenda items**

- New Rooftop
- Losing Habitat – “Certified Wildlife Habitat” in back yards, encouraging people to make these – Will need to investigate what this is. Josh noted he has bee's in his back yard – could host classes on “Bee Keeping” for a fee.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 next meeting will be March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Josh Gordon, Chairperson**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Betty Rucker, Secretary**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6A.

**TITLE:**

Update on wheeled sports complex to be located in Fisherman's Park by Burditt

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

This Parks Board has been in the process of bringing a wheeled sports complex to Bastrop. This is an update by Burditt, the selected contractor, on the progress of the design phase.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

The design was funded in the FY18 budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None provided



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6B.

**TITLE:**

Review and discuss programs through the National Wildlife Federation.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

At the February 1, 2018 Parks Board meeting, a member of the board, Dorothy Skarnulis, requested that Certified Wildlife Habitat programs be discussed at the March 1, 2018 Parks Board meeting. This work session will go over the programs.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Certified Wildlife Habitat Handout





## About

**The National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife™ program** helps people restore habitat and wildlife populations to our cities, towns and neighborhoods. Since 1973, the program has been educating and empowering people turn their own small piece of the Earth—their yards and gardens—into thriving habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. In doing so, the Garden for Wildlife™ program helps wildlife and gives people a daily connection to the natural world, literally right outside their door.

### **Join the Movement**

You can get involved in creating wildlife-friendly gardens and landscapes in your own yard, but also throughout your community. The National Wildlife Federation has recognized over 200,000 spaces representing 1.5 million acres as Certified Wildlife Habitats in suburban yards, schools, campuses, corporate properties, farms, parks, and more.

[You can create a wildlife-friendly garden anywhere!](#)

# Impact of Wildlife Gardens

Private residential property makes up approximately one-third of the urban landscape and studies show that the impact of wildlife gardening is substantial.

These properties can connect corridors of habitat necessary for migratory species *between* natural and larger protected areas of habitat on state, municipal and federal lands. They provide a continuum of resources if planted with a rich diversity of native plants and trees to supply the food chain for insects and the animals who depend on them. (Tallamy, 2007)

A recent study examined whether or not the matrix of homes and private properties between and near habitat patches (like parks, riparian areas and other natural areas) in Cook County, IL (Chicago Area), plays a role in supporting healthy migratory and resident bird population.

**The study found that “streets with bird-friendly yards had almost twice as many species as those without.” The study also indicated that the presence of a variety of native trees provides habitat complexity and is crucial to making these yards more bird-friendly.** (Belaire, Whelan, Minor, 2015)

Since 1973, property owners who have Certified Wildlife Habitats with the National Wildlife Federation, have witnessed this sort of evidence first hand. More recently, specific studies have been conducted in which these certified properties were compared with nearby non-certified properties.

Research on Certified Wildlife Habitats confirmed that property owner commitment to providing the four elements of habitat, food, water, cover, and places to raise young, while practicing sustainable gardening and landscaping—made a real difference ...

**Certified Wildlife Habitat properties provided more abundant and higher quality wildlife habitat relative to non-certified yards.** (Drake, Widows, 2014)

## Specific Results for Wildlife and Nature

*Certified Wildlife Habitats resulted in high percentages of:*

- Wildlife that is present and observed on a daily basis, in particular, **migratory wildlife** such as bees, butterflies, birds, along with small mammals.

- **Indicator species**, such as monarch butterflies, bumblebees, and frogs. Indicator species are those that are moderately affected by disturbances to ecosystems and can act as an index of ecosystem health.
- **Tree coverage** than neighboring non-certified sites, improving water retention, minimizing erosion and surface habitat. Significantly, reduced carbon and air pollution properties was evident. In fact, National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitats sequester 811.62 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually more than their non-certified neighbors. (UCLA, 2013)
- **Native plants** supporting wildlife than neighboring non-certified sites.
- **Water conservation** and stormwater runoff management through **groundwater permeability**.

## Benefits to People

Other literature along with participant self-reporting shows that habitat owners spent more time outside and that the overall increased oxygen producing vegetation, the visual interest and color of their active wildlife garden, and tree coverage had beneficial effects on both people and the ecosystem.

## Sources

*Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants.* Douglas W. Tallamy, Timber Press, 2007

*Evaluating Certified Wildlife Habitats and the Minds Behind Them. Practicum in Environmental Science.* Jennifer M. Chan, Terry H. Chen, Yuxin Jin, Nicole M. Tachiki, Sara L. Vetter, Megan L. Vyeniello, Gina Y. Zheng. University of California Los Angeles. Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. 2014

*Impact on the National Wildlife Federations' Certified Wildlife Habitat Program on Mammalian Species Richness in Urbanized Residential Properties.* Katherine L.M. Busch. Thesis, George Mason University, VA. 2013

Evaluating the National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat™ program

*Landscape and Urban Planning*, Volume 129, Issue null, Pages 32-43. Steffenie A. Widows, David Drake. 2014.

# Kids Garden for Wildlife

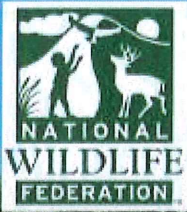
**Toddlers through teens can plant seeds, water, weed, and care for a garden!**


You can help children create a wildlife habitat garden right outside their door and introduce them to the wonders of the natural world. Gardening for wildlife allows children an immediate way to make a real difference for wildlife and the environment. Adults can help and engage children:

## Make the Garden Their Own

- Ask children what sort of wildlife they want to invite to the garden. This will help children then identify what plants to include in their garden and if the garden should be located in sun or shade. For example:
  - **Monarch butterflies** require milkweed and nectar plants
  - **Birds** require plants that provide seed and berries
  - **Salamanders** require old logs and moist areas
- Identify a designated spot for the garden where children are free to dig, plant and explore with a quiet seat for observing wildlife.
- ***Start small:*** Cultivate just a small section of your property at first, or plant flowers in pots or other containers.
- Personalize the garden by building or decorating bird houses, stepping stones or other functional artwork for the garden. Building toad houses and feeders connect children to the space they help create. Children can integrate natural play spaces through the use of natural materials and children's sculpture.
- ***Be Inspired:*** Explore nearby parks and children's gardens, gardening catalogs, magazines and websites for ideas on design.





National Wildlife Federation's  
**Trees for Wildlife**   
*Exploring and Learning about Trees and Wildlife*



Group Guide  
**GRADES  
2-3**

Trees for Wildlife (formerly Trees for 21st Century) is an educational program of the National Wildlife Federation, providing adult leaders with fun, hands-on science-based activities to help young people learn about the importance of trees and how to plant and take care of trees for the future.

This initiative aims to educate and prepare a generation of environmental stewards, expand the world inventory of trees and to protect and improve natural resources.

The National Wildlife Federation's mission is to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future. For 76 years, National Wildlife Federation has been a leader in conservation and environmental education, shaping the future of stewardship for the Earth in the United States. Through our educational programs, publications, and multimedia outreach, the National Wildlife Federation is dedicated to three objectives: connecting people with nature, safeguarding wildlife and wild places, and providing solutions to climate change.

ERTHNXT merged with the National Wildlife Federation in 2010 to extend our programmatic connections for adults and youth by offering an opportunity to learn about the importance of trees to our planet's health, the ability to have a tangible experience to make a difference by planting trees and dedication to pass on an appreciation for nature to future generations.

## **Program Overview**

Trees for Wildlife™ educates youth about the role of trees in our environment, how individuals can take action to plant trees and provides stewardship for sustaining trees locally and across the nation. Trees for Wildlife™ also explores the unique connection wildlife have with trees and the essential role for habitat trees play for wildlife.

Additionally, Trees for Wildlife™ is a great opportunity to have youth learn about how to improve their environmental footprint and serves as a supplement to the National Wildlife Federation's Eco-School USA program, which provides schools an opportunity to “green their school, green their grounds and green the students.”

National Wildlife Federation's Trees for Wildlife™ program provides all the elements you need to successfully implement the program through self-guided materials.

- Age-appropriate and downloadable activities
- Native tree seedlings shipped directly to your home for planting
- Incentives (patches, pins, and more)
- Educational resources to support further projects

Trees for Wildlife™ was inspired by Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai. Thirty years ago, Maathai, from Kenya, Africa, was concerned that 90 percent of her forest had been chopped down. Soil erosion was devastating her country as a result. The women, whose job it was to look for firewood for their families, had to search for hours to find mere branches. Wangari took action. On June 5th, 1977, on World Environment Day, she planted nine trees in her backyard and founded the Green Belt Movement whose mission it is to restore Africa's forests, put an end to the poverty that deforestation was causing, and recognize the intimate and fundamental link between the environment, democracy, and peace. Wangari gathered women from all over the country and empowered them to plant 30 million trees.





# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6C.

**TITLE:**

Planning workshop to discuss potential funding sources for the city parks system.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

The City Council developed focus areas at the 2017 council retreat and identified a need for a dedicated funding source for the city parks system. At the February 1, 2018 Parks Board meeting, members several potential funding sources. This work session will discuss the feasibility of each.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

Under ARTICLE 1.04 – BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

The city council provides requirements for all advisory committees, the sole purpose of the committees is to connect with the community. The boards then provide recommendations to council.

The city council then set policies, and develops ordinances to reflect the community needs. This power is granted by city charter and can be found in Article II Section 2.01 which states:

**Section 2.01 – General Powers of the City.**

The City shall be a home rule city, with full power of local self-government, including the right to amend this Charter. It shall have all the powers possible for a city to have under the constitution and the laws of the State of Texas, together with all the implied powers necessary to carry unto execution all the powers granted. It may use a corporate seal.

The City shall have and succeed to all the rights, property, real, personal and mixed, immunities, powers, privileges and franchises now held, possessed and enjoyed by the City or herein granted and be subject to all its present duties and liabilities, subject to the limitations in this Charter. The City may sue and be sued, may plead and be pleaded in all courts, may contract and be contracted with. It may ordain and establish such acts and regulations and ordinances not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state, as shall be needful for property owned by the City of any of its property within or without the city limits; and it shall have the power to acquire property for any municipal purpose



in fee simple or in any lesser interest of estate by purchase, gift, devise, lease or condemnation within or without the city limits and to lease, hold, manage, control or convey the same when no longer required.

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A





# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7A.

**TITLE:**

Discuss and consider action on scheduling a date for a public meeting in regard to the empty lot located across Kerr Community Park at the Kerr Community Center.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

At the February 1, 2018 regular meeting, the Parks Board requested that City staff check the availability of the Kerr Community Center for three (3) dates in March to hold a public meeting. The public meeting will allow the citizens of Bastrop to express their ideas on the development of the empty City owned lot across from Kerr Community Park. The Kerr Community Center is booked on the dates requested by the Board.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

Under ARTICLE 1.04 – BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

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as shall be needful for property owned by the City of any of its property within or without the city limits; and it shall have the power to acquire property for any municipal purpose in fee simple or in any lesser interest of estate by purchase, gift, devise, lease or condemnation within or without the city limits and to lease, hold, manage, control or convey the same when no longer required.

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A





# STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, March 01, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7B.

**TITLE:**

Discuss and consider action on items for placement on next month's agenda.

**STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:**

Trey Job, Director Public Works & Leisure Services

**BACKGROUND / HISTORY:**

The Parks Board can determine what items need to be added to the next month's agenda that the community has expressed interest in.

**POLICY EXPLANATION:**

Under ARTICLE 1.04 – BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

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condemnation within or without the city limits and to lease, hold, manage, control or convey the same when no longer required.

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A

