

TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK MONARCH HERALD



Monthly Newsletter for the Residents of the Town of Highland Park

IN A PECAN SHELL:

- Quieter Leaf Blower Options
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event
- 2021 Swim Season
- Town Parks Etiquette
- Mindfulness Classes
- Eye Health
- Lifelong Learning with the HP Library
- What to Read Next
- National Public Works Week
- The Parks Planter
- Park Cities Hope
- May Events Calendar

This newsletter is a service to the residents of the Town of Highland Park to keep you informed of new services, events, activities, and other important information. If there is anything you would like to see covered in the newsletter, please let us know! Contact Holly Russell, Management Assistant at hrussell@hptx.org, or call (214) 559-9308 with your recommendations.



Like A Leaf On The Wind

Bill Lindley, Town Administrator

Highland Park is justly renowned for its beauty. An important aspect of its beauty is peacefulness. In our neighborhoods, the peace is often impacted by landscape crews using gas-powered leaf blowers. The noise from this type of yard equipment can disturb neighbors living even several blocks away. Together as neighbor to neighbor, we can change this.

From time to time, some residents suggest the Town make gas-powered leaf blowers illegal. You may visit www.hptx.org/780/Leaf-Blowers for information on the Town's work addressing leaf blowers. Guided by the Golden Rule, the Town asks residents to voluntarily use battery, or plug-in, powered leaf blowers. In general, non-gas powered leaf blowers are quieter and do not emit exhaust fumes that can be harmful to the environment.

In the spirit of being a good neighbor, the Town has used battery powered leaf blowers for the last few years. Several commercial landscaping firms, such as those listed below, offer the use of non-gas powered leaf blowers. Throughout our community, residents such as Monty Bennet, Mariano Martinez, Dr. Riggs, and others individually or with their neighbors require the landscaper to use non-gas powered leaf blowers to reduce noise in the neighborhood! Take up the challenge and visit with your neighbors about working together to ask your landscapers' stop using gas-powered leaf blowers. Taking this eco-action lifestyle will simultaneously improve our health, environment, and quality of life.

Who knows, in a short time we might hear the leaves falling from the trees!

Landscape Companies providing Electric/Battery Powered Leaf Blowers:

- Lamberts
- Krause Landscaping
- Southern Botanical
- Lawns of Dallas
- Marlin Landscaping
- Complete Landsculpture of Texas
- A & A Landscaping
- Verdant Grounds



HAPPY HEALTHY HOMES

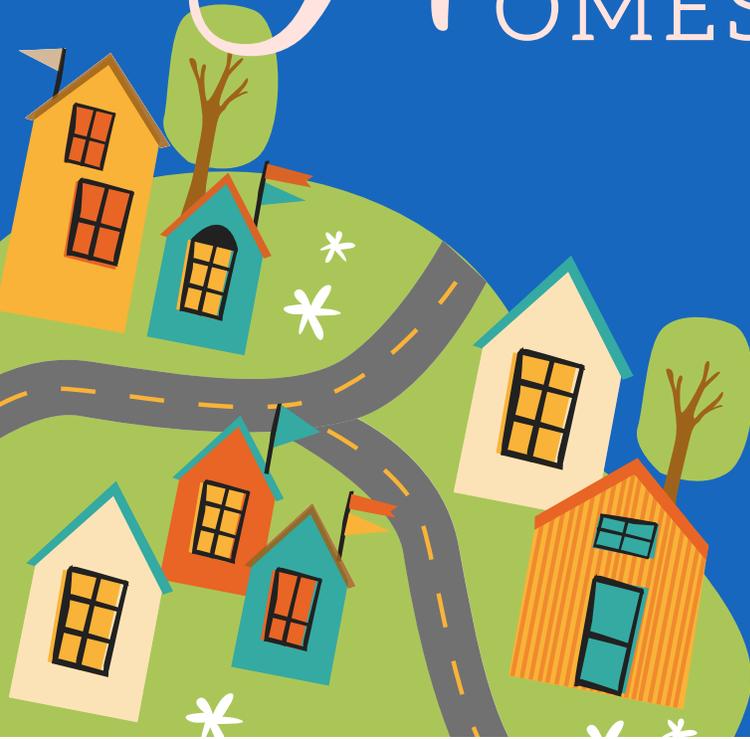
**Household Hazard Waste
Drop Off Collection Event**
May 08, 2021 | 9 am - 1 pm

3801 Lexington Ave.
Across from the HP Swimming Pool

*Registration strongly encouraged
due to space filling up quickly*

For more information/registration
Town Customer Service (214) 521-4161
Monday -Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For your safety and ours, all personnel working the event will be wearing facial coverings when they remove items from your vehicle. Please stay in your vehicle as your items are being removed.



Hazardous Items For Disposal

Saturday, May 8, 2021 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Kitchen:

Drain cleaner
Oven cleaner
Floor cleaner
Disinfectant
Ammonia

Bathroom:

Nail
polish/remover
Drain cleaner
Pharmaceuticals
Disinfectant
Sprays
Aerosol sprays

Living Room:

Furniture polish
Spot remover

Lawn & Garden:

Weed killers
Insecticides
Flea spray or
collars
Pool chemicals

Laundry Room:

Bleach

Craft or Work Room:

Craft Paint
Varnish
Paint thinner
Household batteries
Furniture stripper

Garage:

House Paint
Motor oil &
Gasoline
Antifreeze

Other:

A hazardous product has one or more of these "signal" words on the label:

CAUTION
WARNING
DANGER
POISON
FLAMMABLE
REACTIVE
CORROSIVE
TOXIC



**Space is limited.
Register by calling
214-521-4161**

2021 Summer Swim Season Announced

Town residents may purchase a season permit for admission to the Highland Park Pool online at hptx.org/recreation. Guest passes and day passes will also be available during the swim season. Permits for 1 to 4 family members in the same household are \$60 per person. Permits for additional household family members are \$30 each when purchased at the same time.

Day Passes and Guest Passes will be available for residents to purchase, and cost \$7 each. Passes will not be available for purchase at the pool. To make sure you are able to purchase your day or guest passes online, HP Staff recommend you create your account now and make sure it is verified as an HP Resident account. If you need assistance with your account set up or purchasing pool tags, please call Customer Service during normal business hours, Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (214) 521-4161.

The 2021 Summer Swim schedule is

- **Early Season Lap Swim, April 27 - May 27**
Tuesdays - Fridays, 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- **Regular Season Lap Swim, May 28 - August 15**
Tuesdays - Sundays, 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- **Regular Season Open Swim, May 28 - August 15**
Tuesdays - Sundays, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- **Late Season Lap Swim, August 17 - September 26**
Tuesdays - Sundays, 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- **Late Season Open Swim, August 17 - September 26**
Saturday and Sundays only, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- **End Season Lap Swim, September 28 - October 29**
Tuesdays - Fridays, 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.



In the instances where the weather is below 55°F, and the water temperature is below 78°F, the pool may be closed. Please be sure to follow the Town's Twitter page at twitter.com/HP_Texas for announcements and closure notices.

Pool guests will still be required to wear a mask when not in the water, and to practice social distancing. If anyone is not feeling well, or shows symptoms of COVID, please do not visit the Swimming Pool. Temperatures will be checked when visitors arrive. Pool parties will also not be permitted this year.

Be Kind To Our Parks

Please remember to follow the park rules and ordinances when visiting the Town's beautiful parks. All dogs should remain on a leash. All trash needs to be disposed of properly. Picnicking is not allowed in Lakeside or Connor Parks. When visiting the Teddy Bear sculptures, please be respectful of nearby private property, and never leave children unattended. The parks are a great place for a photo shoot, but props and anything added to the parks is not permitted. Please be mindful of the pathways and do not block pedestrian traffic. Please stay out of the flower beds, fountains, and waterways. If you see any violation of private property or Town parks, please call the DPS Non-Emergency Line at (214) 521-5000. To access all of the park rules and ordinances, please visit hptx.org/483/Park-Ordinances.

Make Time To Be Well

Mindful Meditation and Mindful Movement will be offered again, but this time will be online. For June, July, and early August, the Mindful Meditation and Mindful Movement classes will be offered virtually on Zoom. Janet Sandman of The Noble Dragonfly will lead the meditation sessions. Janna Whitton of Tai Chi with Janna will lead participants in low impact, meditative movements.

- **Mindful Meditation** - Tuesdays
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
June 1 - August 3
- **Mindful Movement** - Thursdays
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
June 3 - August 5

On Monday, May 24, at noon, there will be an online presentation of "Eye Matters: The Importance of Ocular Health" with Jenny Terrell, OD, FAAO, DiplABO. A clinical Director and Professor, Dr. Terrell will share the importance of keeping our eyes healthy and the ocular issues to lookout for.

To register for any of these programs, please email Holly Russell at [hrussell@hptx.org](mailto:h russell@hptx.org) for the program links.



Eye Matters: The Importance of Ocular Health

An online presentation and discussion with
Jenny Terrell, OD, FAAO, DiplABO
Clinical Assistant Professor,
University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg
School of Optometry
Clinic Director, Community Eye Clinic Fort Worth

Anyone is welcome to join the programs offered to Town Residents through Parks and Recreation programs and from the Highland Park Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library. Unless noted, events do not require a library card and participation is free to attend. If you would like more information about programs available to residents, please contact the HP Library at hplibrary@hplibrary.info, or call (214) 559-9400 during normal business hours of Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For programs offered by Parks and Recreation, please email hrussell@hptx.org, or call (214) 559-9308.

Your Connection to Lifelong Learning

Connect to Lifelong Learning with the Highland Park Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library. Whether its understanding how to play chess, brushing up on writing skills, or boosting your technical know-how, the Library has online learning options for all ages and interests.

Lynda.com is now LinkedIn Learning. Not only has the number of business, technology, and creative skills online classes increased by the thousands, but options are available to take classes in German, French, Spanish, Japanese, Portuguese, and Mandarin. Visit the website at <https://www.linkedin.com/learning-login/go/hplibrary>

and use your Library card number and PIN to access LiknedIn Learning. Find out about 3D animation, video editing, social media marketing, web design, Microsoft software, and more.

Students in primary through college can reach their learning goals with Brainfuse HelpNow. Connect with a live online tutor, take practice tests, get feedback on writing assignments, and so much more. Visit <https://tx-highlandpark.civicplus.com/864/Homework-Help> and use your Library card number and PIN to access HelpNow. Tutors are available online seven days a week,

from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Even chess is covered. Online chess tutoring is available Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Checkmate.

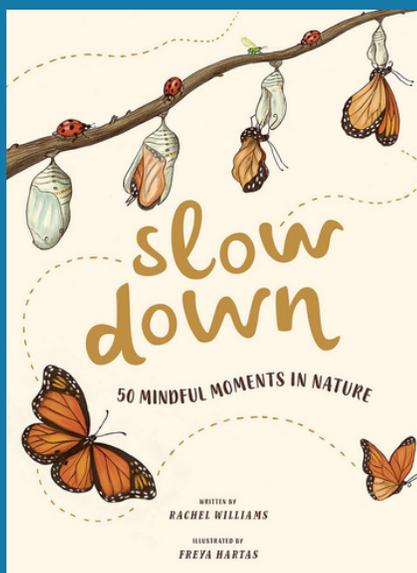
Visit the Library's website, www.hptx.org/106/Library, to access online resources or use the Library's Book Coach service, or to place holds on materials.



LEARNING
WITH Lynda.com® CONTENT



HP Library: What to Read Next



Nature is wondrous and quite mysterious. *Slow Down: 50 Mindful Moments in Nature*, written by Rachel Williams, inspires people to explore their surroundings and witness the transformations in nature happening all around us. The beautiful illustrations by Freya Hartas give visual step-by-step insight into natural processes taking place right now across

the globe. Discover how the moon waxes and wanes; how an ocean wave forms, crests, and breaks; how a sunflower tracks the sun; how a dragonfly performs an aerial show; how a barn owl wakes up; and many other amazing activities. Use this book as a guide to learn how to record your own nature observations in both text and drawings.

National Public Works Week

The theme for the May 16 - 22, 2021 National Public Works Week is "Stronger Together". It challenges Public Works departments, municipalities, and their citizens to think about the role public works plays in creating a great place to live. By working together, the impact citizens and public works professionals can have on their communities is magnified and results in the ability to accomplish goals once thought unattainable.

Public Works helps maintain a community's strength by working together to provide an infrastructure of services in transportation, water, wastewater and stormwater treatment, public buildings and spaces, parks and grounds, emergency management and first response, solid waste, and right-of-way management. Public Works provides togetherness needed for collaboration with all the stakeholders in capital projects, infrastructure solutions, and quality of life services.



All photos were taken prior to March 2020.

Thank you to all of the Town of Highland Park Public Works employees for all your hard work

The Parks Planter: Mike Rangel, Parks Superintendent

With more sunny days, and all our flowers in bloom, it is only natural to want to keep everything looking fresh and bright. When planning your irrigation schedule, remember to be mindful of water conservation. Water is essential to keep lawns green, and flowers bloomed. However, too much water or too little water can be disastrous to the environment and to your landscape.

One of the most effective methods for water conservation is decreasing the number of watering days during the week, ensuring sprinkler use on alternative days while timing it during the coolest part of the day. Currently, the Town of Highland Park allows residents to water their landscape on the following days:

- **Even number addresses** on Sundays & Thursdays
- **Odd number addresses** on Saturdays & Wednesdays
- Lawn irrigation is not permitted between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. from April 1 to October 31. However, hand watering is allowed during those hours.



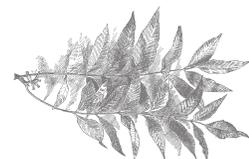
*Mike Rangel,
HP Parks Superintendent*

Over 50% of landscape water is wasted due to over-watering. Over-watering of your plants will lead to a wilted looking plant, curling or folding of the leaves, and a very soggy soil foundation. If the water sits too long, this can lead to root-rot as well. Water should not sit for a long time or be pooled. Let the soil guide you. It should be wet, not soaked.

On the other side of this is under-watering your plants. If they do not receive enough water, they will look wilted and have the curled or folded leaves. Check the soil foundation around the roots to see how dry it is, and how deep that dryness goes. If it is an inch or more, your plant needs water.

How do you know when to water your property? A weather station at Douglas Park reports current conditions in the area to the *Water My Yard* program. You can get recommendations on how much water to give the landscape based on humidity levels, temperature, and sun exposure. You can also sign up for weekly watering recommendations sent to you by email or text. Be on the look out in the coming months for articles from our Public Works Department about this program and other water conservation efforts.

For more info on *Water My Yard*, please see <https://www.watermyyard.org/#/Location>.



Park Cities HOPE

Many struggle with mental and emotional health, especially when under large amounts of stress or pressure. It is often our first thought that we are alone in what we are going through, and that no one really understands. Sometimes we tell ourselves that we can just power through it all and it will get better soon. Park Cities HOPE wants you to know that they are here to assist anyone with getting the help they need.

Park Cities HOPE is a task force of the School Health Advisory Committee, and is comprised of various professionals and organizations that focus on the mental health and well-being of others. Their mission and purpose is to "*address the mental health issues affecting our youth and our community, and serve as a resource by creating a culture committed to increasing awareness and improving quality of life.*" Education of parents, school staff, and students; awareness of mental health issues; and communicating the many available resources to students and the community are the three priorities of HOPE. They have even addressed health and wellness during COVID, and other helpful COVID related resources on their website.



**IT TAKES A
COMMUNITY**

HOPE ADDRESSES THE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AFFECTING OUR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY, SERVING AS A RESOURCE BY CREATING A CULTURE COMMITTED TO INCREASING AWARENESS AND IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE.



Scan the QR code to visit the Park Cities HOPE website, or visit www.hpisd.org/hope.



Scan the QR code to find help now, or visit www.hpisd.org/hope and click on RESOURCES.

If you need immediate medical attention, call **9-1-1**.

**For suicidal thoughts or crisis,
contact these organizations for help:**

Crisis Text Line - text HOME to 741741

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 1 (800) 273-8255

MAY CALENDAR



Every Month Every **Thursday at 10 AM:** Baby Bounce Story Time, Library
Every **Friday at 10 AM:** Pawsome Tales Story Time, Library
Watch live on the Friends of the Highland Park Library Facebook Page

All Month **Stress Less Teen Craft Kit** - Library
Teens can stress less all month with this craft kit, available for pick up at the Highland Park Library. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to reserve a kit in advance.

May 4, Tuesday **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Link to watch live stream is available on Town website
<https://www.hptx.org/914/Public-Meetings-During-COVID-19-Pandemic>

May 4, Tuesday **May the Fourth Origami** - Library
all day Celebrate Star Wars Day on May the Fourth with a Baby Yoda Kit, available for pick up at the Highland Park Library. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to reserve a kit in advance.

May 8, Saturday **HP Happy Homes: Household Hazard Waste Collection Event**
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Due to high turn out, registering is strongly encouraged. Please email apalsey@hptx.org to reserve your time. Collection will be at 3801 Lexington Ave.

May 16 - 22 **National Public Works Week**

May 18, Tuesday **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Link to watch live stream is available on Town website
<https://www.hptx.org/914/Public-Meetings-During-COVID-19-Pandemic>

May 18, Tuesday **A Piet Oudolf Story** - Library
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. A personal introduction to the design principles of the leading naturalistic landscape & garden designer in the world, Piet Oudolf. This program will be held via Zoom; email smilberger@hplibrary.info to register.

May 22, Saturday **Perot Museum of Nature and Science: Engineering Challenge** - Library
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Register at lcollins@hplibrary.info for the program link and to reserve your supplies before the program time.

May 24, Monday **Eye Matters: The Importance of Ocular Health** - Parks & Rec
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Presentation by Dr. Jenny Terrell, OD, FAAO. Please register with Holly Russell, hrussell@hptx.org, to receive the online presentation link.

May 29, Saturday **The Jungle Show, virtual presentation** - Library
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Kick-off summer reading with this fun online presentation of songs, activities, and stories! Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to register and receive the link.

May 31, Monday Town Hall Offices will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday.



@HP_Texas



@HPDPS_TX



hptx.org



(214) 521-4161