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## PRESS RELEASE

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Outdoor Adventures & Nature Thrills At Lake Houston Park In March**

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department invites everyone interested in the world of nature to visit Lake Houston Park in March for an ongoing series of fun and educational events in the great outdoors! Throughout the month, Park Naturalist Jerry Walls will lead guests on a variety of learning adventures in the wilderness of Lake Houston Park.

In March, join us for:

**Sunday, March 4, 2007, 8:30 a.m.**

### **"Guided Bird Walk"**

Come join us and explore the beauty of Lake Houston Park during a Guided Bird Walk.

Explore the natural world of Lake Houston and see how many of the 138 different species of birds that call this park their home you can spot. This fun & educational event is open to bird enthusiasts and novices alike from age 13 and up. The Guided Bird Walk is FREE with park entry fee.

**Saturday, March 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m.**

### **"Hummingbirds Up Close/Attracting Hummingbirds"**

About 300 species of hummingbirds live in North and South America, and nowhere else in the world. Learn more about these fascinating and inquisitive "flying jewels" of nature through an educational multi-media program. You'll learn: when hummers migrate through our area, what species visit Houston, how to identify them, where they congregate and how to attract them to your home. All ages are welcome. The program is FREE with park entry fee.

**Friday and Saturday, March 16 & 17, 2007, 6:30 p.m. Friday**

### **"Birding Adventure 101"**

Space is limited for this overnight birding adventure so sign up soon! Friday evening begins with an Owl Prowl. Listen to the hoots, wails and shrieks of these nighttime avians during a night hike in the woods and learn about the owl in its natural environment. Friday evening ends with a bird identification workshop in preparation for Saturday morning's bird walk. End your evening with a bunkhouse overnight at Forest Cottage Lodge.

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Don't forget to bring your own linens, pillow(s), blankets, toiletries, towels, food and beverage for Friday night, Saturday morning and lunch. After breakfast on Saturday morning, put your newly acquired bird identification skills to the test on a guided bird walk. See if you can spot and hear some of the 138 different species of birds that call Lake Houston home with the help of an experienced guide. This overnight birding adventure is open to bird enthusiasts and novices alike from age 13 and up. The \$36 per person fee covers park entry fee, guided hike and tour and camp fee. Reservations are required due to limited space.

**Saturday, March 24, 2007, 10:00 a.m.**

### **"Nature Scavenger Hunt & Animal Tracks Detective"**

Match wits with fellow Nature Sleuths during a fun & educational nature scavenger hunt in beautiful Lake Houston Park. This friendly quest for interesting natural things found in the park, including types of leaves, signs of insects, birds, animals, deer antlers and more, is open to children, families and friends who are interested in exploring and discovering nature. After the hunt take a hike through the woods with an Animal Tracks Detective and learn more about the animals that call Lake Houston home. This is always a popular event! All ages are welcome. The program is FREE with park entry fee.

**Saturday, March 31, 2007, 10:00 a.m.**

### **"Spring Bird Migration & Attracting Songbirds"**

This multi-sensory presentation will help you identify the many beautiful songbirds that visit our area every spring. Learn about the fascinating facts of spring migration that tiny birds make across 550 miles of the Gulf of Mexico! Share several simple tips on how to successfully attract birds to your property. A bird walk might be scheduled after the program. All ages are welcome. The program is FREE with park entry fee

Lake Houston Park is located north of Houston at 22031 Baptist Encampment Road, in New Caney, Texas. It is accessible from Hwy 59 and FM 1485. Signs point the way from that intersection. With approximately 5,000 acres of forest, 12 miles of hike and bike trails, 8 miles of equestrian trails and camping facilities, the park offers a variety of activities for visitors to experience.

For additional information about recreational and educational opportunities at Lake Houston Park or the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (281) 354-6881, (713) 845-1135, or visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).