
Press Release

May 30, 2012

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H.P.A.R.D. Summer Food Service Program Offers Free Lunch & Snack for Youth ***No Registration Required - Program Operates Weekdays From June 4 Through August 17***

The Houston Parks & Recreation Department will once again sponsor the U.S.D.A.'s Summer Food Service Program to provide FREE meals for youth ages 1 to 18 during the summer break. The program serves a FREE lunch & snack Monday through Friday from June 4 through August 17 at 460 sites across Houston.

"The Summer Food Service program is an integral part of our department's summer services," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks & Recreation Department. "We have around 460 sites across the city ready to serve meals Monday through Friday to young people who would like to participate. No registration is required. To find a site near you call 2-1-1 & give the operator your zip code. They will direct you to a site near you."

Meals served through the Summer Food Service Program include: one serving of milk, two or more servings of vegetables &/or fruits, one serving of grain or bread, & one serving of meat or meat alternative. Quantities served comply with federal & state requirements. No food preparation is involved at the food serving site.

Summer Food Service sites include: all 59 H.P.A.R.D. Community Centers, churches, apartment complexes, recreation/learning centers, youth organizations, schools & nonprofit agencies that have registered with the Houston Parks & Recreation Department to provide FREE meals to area youth.

Citizens hoping to find the nearest Summer Food Service Program site can call (713) 676-6832 or 211 & specify a zip code. No registration is required for the program. Meals must be consumed on site. Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with a healthy snack served from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Summer Food Service Program is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Division. In accordance with federal law & U.S.D.A. policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,752 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.