
Press Release

March 24, 2014

CONTACT: Estella Espinosa
Work: (832) 395-7022
Cell: (832) 465-4782

2014 Summer Food Service Sites Application Deadline Approaches - April 18, 2014 *Summer Food Service Sites Provide Lunches for Youth At No Cost To Sites*

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) is currently taking applications from qualified groups and organizations interested in becoming a 2014 Summer Food Service Program Site. Lunch distribution sites include churches, apartment complexes, youth centers, community centers, private or non-profit groups. Applications must be received by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department before April 18, 2014.

"Every year, thousands of Houston-area children suffer a food shortage when the school year ends. H.P.A.R.D.'s Summer Food Service Program and its participating sites fill that need by providing fresh, nutritious lunches and snacks to children across the city," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "We welcome and encourage groups and organizations interested in becoming 2014 Summer Food Service Program Sites to apply today."

Last year, more than 460 sites participated, and there is a need for more sites this summer. Lunch distribution sites include churches, apartment complexes, youth centers, community centers, private or non-profit groups, and others that will open their doors to youth ages 1 through 18 from June 2 through August 15, 2014. No food preparation is involved and no money is exchanged.

Interested organizations must submit a Request to Participate form before April 18, 2014. This form may be obtained by calling 713-676-6832 and on line at www.houstonparks.org.

The Summer Food Service Program has been sponsored by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department since 1984. It is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Division. In accordance with federal law and 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 37,832 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.