

NEWS RELEASE

October 7, 2009

CONTACT:

Estella Espinosa Work (713) 865-4537

Cell (832) 465-4782 Outdoor Adventures and Nature Thrills At Lake Houston Wilderness Park This Fall

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department invites everyone interested in the world of nature to visit Lake Houston Wilderness Park this fall for an ongoing series of fun and educational events in the great outdoors! Throughout the season, Park Naturalist Crystal Johnston will lead guests on a variety of learning adventures, including:

Saturday, October 10 – Night Hike!

7:00 p.m. For all ages

Do you want to get a close look at nocturnal creatures? Join us for this night hike! We will head down forest trails in search of raccoons, opossums, snakes, and owls! Bring your cameras! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Saturday, October 17 – Crayon Creations!

All day for all ages

Join us as we make great art with fallen leaves! See how a crayon can bring out the best in nature! No reservations required for this event. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Saturday, October 24 – Owl Pellet Dissection

10:00 a.m. For ages 5 - 13

Learn about how owls live and what they eat! We will dissect real owl pellets to discover bones inside, and use them to see what they ate! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Saturday, October 31 – Owl Prowl!

6:00 p.m. For ages 14 and up

Catch a glimpse of the owls that inhabit Lake Houston Wilderness Park, and have your cameras ready! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Lake Houston Wilderness Park Fall Events, page 2 of 2

Saturday, November 7 – Swamp Tromp for Kids! 10:00 a.m. For ages 5 – 13

Come on a forest adventure and check out wildlife in its natural habitat! Bring your rubber boots, lunch, and bug spray! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Saturday, November 14 - Snakes!

2:00 p.m. For all ages

Come learn about these misunderstood creatures! Join us for an informative, handson experience! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Saturday, November 21 – Park After Dark! 6:00 p.m. For all ages

Get a close-up look at the park's nocturnal animals! Travel into the woods in 4-wheel drive vehicles! Reservations required. Call (281) 354-0173. Free with \$3 park entry fee.

Lake Houston Wilderness Park is located 30 minutes north of downtown Houston off of Highway 59 and FM 1485 at 22031 Baptist Encampment Road. It has approximately 5,000 acres of forest, with twelve miles of hike and bike trails and eight miles of equestrian trails and camping facilities. The park offers a variety of activities for visitors to experience.

For more information on Lake Houston Wilderness Park and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (713) 865-4537, or go to <u>www.houstonparks.org</u>.

-30-