



**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **The Woodlands Township to host second annual Pollinator BioBlitz**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (May 25, 2021) – The Woodlands Township invites residents to participate in the second annual Pollinator BioBlitz in celebration of National Pollinator Week, beginning Monday, June 21, 2021 and concluding Sunday, June 27, 2021.

New this year, the entire family is encouraged to join the fun in person Saturday, June 26, 2021, from 8 to 11 a.m. at The Recreation Center at Rob Fleming Park, 6464 Creekside Forest Drive, for an in-person BioBlitz. Stop by the outdoor patio to visit with nature specialists before exploring the George Mitchell Nature Preserve and making observations with a mobile device.

National Pollinator Week serves as a world-wide call to action to save bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles. More than 74 pollinator species reside on the federal endangered species list, with hundreds more facing serious decline because of pesticides and herbicides, habitat loss and disease. Pollinators are a vital component of a functioning ecosystem, responsible for one in every three bites of food and essential to the reproduction of more than 80 percent of all flowering plants.

Participants in the BioBlitz will use the iNaturalist app to record observations. The app is free for download in the App Store (IOS) or Google Play (Android). Video tutorials are available at [www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org). Additionally, the Township will host a free online training for participants Friday, June 4, 2021, from 10 to 11 a.m. with Texas Nature Trackers Biologist, Craig Hensley. Please register online at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment).

After downloading the iNaturalist app, join the Community Project: 'The Woodlands Township BioBlitz June 2021' and begin making observations. Participants can make as many or as few observations as they like and from any area – backyard, park or forest. Observations made during National Pollinator Week, June 21-27, 2021, will be tallied at the end of the week and shared with the community.

For more upcoming events presented by Township Environmental Services, please visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/environment) or email questions to [enviro@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](mailto:enviro@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov).



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