## THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

The Woodlands, TX



**NEWS RELEASE** 

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## Vote for The Woodlands' George Mitchell Nature Preserve in the 2022 Niagara Perk Your Park Contest

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (August 1, 2022) – The Woodlands Township has an opportunity to receive financial support in constructing a dual-purpose bird blind (a structure that allows for viewing birds without being noticed by the birds) through the Perk Your Park Contest by Niagara Water. Residents interested in helping with this effort are encouraged to <u>vote daily online</u>, as the three winning parks will receive \$75,000 toward the upgrade.

If awarded funding, the new structure will be located at the Creekside West Trailhead of George Mitchell Nature Preserve in The Woodlands. This blind has been selected as one of 10 projects in the 2022 Niagara Perk Your Park Contest from Niagara Bottling through its charitable program, Niagara Cares, and in partnership with National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) as an initiative that focuses on park and community space revitalization across the country.

After funding two projects in 2021, Niagara is giving communities a chance to cast their votes for which projects receive funding next. Voting starts August 1, 2022, at <a href="https://uqr.to/GeorgeMitchell">https://uqr.to/GeorgeMitchell</a>. Residents can vote for the new project once per day until the polls close September 12, 2022.

With miles of hike and bike trails and exposure to native plants and wildlife, the 1,800-acre George Mitchell Nature Preserve connects to the adjacent forest known as the Spring Creek Greenway. The new structure for bird viewing will be a welcome addition and help to serve as an outdoor classroom, while also hosting various programs at this site.

**The Woodlands** is a unique community, with 100 percent of its homes located within a 10-minute walk of a park, pathway and/or open space. Carefully designed and located in all villages throughout The Woodlands, the parks are connected by nearly 220+ miles of hike and bike pathways for non-motorized use, a number continuing to grow every day.

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The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. With more than 60,000 members, NRPA advances this vision by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals and advocates — the catalysts for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. For more information, visit <a href="mailto:nrpa.org">nrpa.org</a>. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, <a href="mailto:parksandrecreation.org">parks & Recreation</a>, visit <a href="mailto:parksandrecreation.org">parksandrecreation.org</a>.

**Niagara Cares** is a philanthropic arm of Niagara Bottling, committed to supporting local and national community initiatives by engaging stakeholders and investing its resources for disadvantaged children and their families. Niagara Cares initiatives include national strategic partnerships, local community grants, employee engagement, volunteerism and the Andrew D. Peykoff, Sr. Scholarship Program. For more information, visit <u>niagarawater.com/niagara-cares</u>.