

Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center

Fall Programs 2019

SEPTEMBER

INATURALIST. Sat., Sept. 7, 10 a.m. Visitors are invited to a presentation on how to use this useful nature app and how Jones Park uses it to monitor plant and animal populations. To get you started, a brief outdoor tutorial follows the talk. *Ages 8+.*

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY. Sat., Sept. 14, 1–3 p.m. Join staff and volunteers at the Akokisa Indian Village for a celebration of tribal culture. Observe demonstrations and learn about the native peoples that lived in Southeast Texas.

FALL NATURE WALK. Sat., Sept. 21, 1 p.m. Join a staff naturalist for a guided hike to learn about the park's plants and animals. *Reservations beginning Wed., Sept. 11.*

PONTOON BOAT TOURS. Sat., Sept. 28, Tours throughout the day. Enjoy a leisurely tour along Spring Creek and take in the unique view of the area from the water. Learn about local history, plants, and wildlife. *Ages 8+. Reservations required beginning Wed., Sept. 18.*

OCTOBER

18-INCH DOLL CLOTHING WORKSHOP. Sat., Oct. 5, 10 a.m. Learn the techniques of creating an 1830s dress for an 18-inch doll, including replicating 19th century gauging, hems and seams. Bring sewing kit, 18-inch doll, and sack lunch. Materials provided. *Reservations required beginning Wed., Sept. 25. Ages 8+.*

STORIES & STARS. Sat., Oct. 5, 7 p.m. Spend an evening learning about the planets and stars with the North Houston Astronomy Club and listen to stories about our galaxy from the Houston Storytellers Guild. Participants are encouraged to bring telescopes or binoculars. *Reservations required beginning Wed., Sept. 25.*

VOLUNTEER MEET & GREET. Sat., Oct. 12, 9–11 a.m. Interested in volunteering? Stop in the Nature Center for a casual gathering with staff and volunteers. Learn about the variety of rewarding park volunteer opportunities. New volunteers welcome! *Ages 16+.*

SECOND SATURDAY SETTLERS: SPINNING & WEAVING. Sat., Oct. 12, 1–3 p.m. Visit Redbud Hill Homestead to learn how early settlers spun plant and animal fibers into thread and woven fabrics. Join staff and volunteers as they demonstrate everyday 19th century chores.

SKINS & SKULLS. Sat., Oct. 19, 1 p.m. Have you ever stumbled upon bones or fur in the woods and wondered what kind of animal left them behind? Join a staff naturalist to learn how to identify local wildlife bones, fur, and more.

TRICKS & TREATS AMONG THE TREES. Sat., Oct. 26, 3:30–7 p.m. Enjoy a free trick-or-treat nature trail along with fun fall activities including crafts, live creepy critters, games, hayrides, costume contest, a critter storybook trail, and more. Costumed trick-or-treaters are encouraged!

NOVEMBER

TURKEY TALK. Sat., Nov. 2, 10 a.m. The wild turkey plays an important role in the ecosystem. Learn about Texas' native wild turkeys, their population challenges, and ways that landowners can increase their number in the wild.

PIONEER DAY. Sat., Nov. 9, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Learn about Texas settlers and Native American lifestyles in the 1830s. View living history demonstrations, including blacksmithing, cooking, spinning, woodworking and much more. Enjoy folk music and hayrides during this free, fun-filled family event!

PLANT TEXAS NATIVES. Sat., Nov. 16, 9 a.m. Help restore native habitats in Jones Park! Join staff and volunteers with planting native plants and sowing seeds to enhance the park's conservation areas. *Wear closed-toe shoes. Reservations required beginning Wed., Nov. 6.*

TAKE ME FISHING. Sat., Nov. 23, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Through a partnership with Fishing's Future and Texas Parks & Wildlife, staff and volunteers share the skills and joys of family fishing. All equipment is provided. Please bring a sack lunch. *Ages 8+. Online registration required at www.fishingsfuture.org.*

DECEMBER

AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS. Sat., Dec. 7, 4–7 p.m. Experience the traditions of earlier times as the homestead comes to life with 19th century holiday customs. Enjoy music, a holiday craft, tree lighting, wassail, cookies, and an early visit from Saint Nicholas. *Reservations required beginning Wed., Nov. 13 for Harris County residents; Mon., Nov. 18 for non-Harris County residents.*

Continued on reverse

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Fall/Winter Programs 2019

DECEMBER

SECOND SATURDAY SETTLERS: HOMESTEAD HOLIDAY. *Sat., Dec. 14, 1–3 p.m.* Join park staff and volunteers for homemade cookies and wassail as the homestead comes to life with old-fashioned Christmas traditions, including jolly old Saint Nicholas.

CRITTER'S CHRISTMAS. *Sat., Dec. 21, 1 p.m.* Have you thought of decorating a tree outside just for the critters? Learn how to make decorative edible treats for the birds and other wildlife that visit your yard this time of year.

UPCOMING

HOMESTEAD HERITAGE DAY. *Sat., Feb. 8, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.* Bring the family for a living history look at 19th century Texas settler life. Enjoy the sights and sounds of folk music, blacksmithing, black powder weaponry, open fire cooking, and more as the skills of times past are demonstrated by authentically outfitted reenactors. *All ages.*

ONGOING

NATURE PHOTO CONTEST. Now is a great time to plan for the park's annual photo contest! Call for rules and information or visit www.hcp4.net/parks/jjp/photocontest.

FIRST SATURDAY BIRDING. *Saturdays, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7, 7:45 a.m.* Birders of all skill levels are invited to join a naturalist or volunteer guide to observe and document the park's variety of birds. *Ages 10+.*

CONSERVATION CONNECTIONS. *Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.* Volunteers are invited to join staff and assist with a variety of conservation projects such as maintaining the pollinator gardens, plant propagation, and habitat restoration. *Wear closed-toed shoes. Bring garden gloves and water bottle. Long pants and hat recommended. Ages 16+ or accompanied by adult.*

T'AI CHI. *Wednesdays, 9 a.m.* This one-hour beginner class meets in the outdoor classroom next to Nature Center and led by JJPV member John Spencer.

TADPOLES CLUB. *Wednesdays, Sept. 4, 11, 18, and 25; or Nov. 6, 13, and 20, 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.* This interactive program introduces preschool-aged children to nature with animals, puppets, short walks, crafts, and stories. *Ages 3 and 4 only! Parent must accompany child. Sorry, no younger or older siblings. Reservations required for respective dates beginning Wed., Aug. 7 and Wed., Oct. 2.*

FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS. *Fridays, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, and Nov. 1, 1 p.m.* Senior adults are invited to a variety of natural history programs, leisurely walks and fun nature activities. Call for more information. *Ages 55+.*

SECOND SUNDAY PICKERS. *Sundays, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, and Dec. 8, 2–4 p.m.* Visitors are welcome to listen to free folk music or bring an instrument to join in the fun.

INVASIVES BEWARE. *Saturdays, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21, 9–11 a.m.* Join the JJP Eradicator's to record and remove invasive plant species in the park. *Wear long pants and closed-toed shoes. Ages 16+ or accompanied by adult.*

JESSE JONES PARK VOLUNTEERS. *Mondays, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 25, and Dec. 16 (annual Christmas party), 7 p.m.* Everyone is invited to attend the JJPV monthly program and meeting. Call for more information about volunteer opportunities. *Ages 16+ or accompanied by an adult.*

HOMESTEAD OPEN HOUSE. *Wednesdays and Saturdays, 1–4 p.m.* Enjoy a look around the Redbud Hill Homestead and Akokisa Indian Village. Self-guided interpretive brochures are available in the Nature Center.

Programs are for all ages unless otherwise noted.

All Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center programs requiring reservations are limited in size and open to one family per phone call. Group reservations are not allowed unless otherwise indicated. Preferential reservations are given to Harris County residents. Persons not residing in Harris County may attend a space-limited program if spaces are available. All programs and events are free of charge unless otherwise noted and open to the public regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, physical ability, national origin, or religion. Anyone requiring special assistance to participate in these programs should contact the nature center. Programs meet at the nature center unless otherwise noted. Solid shoes are recommended for all walks. Call 281-446-8588 for reservations or information.



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20634 Kenswick Drive • Humble, Texas 77338
281-446-8588 • www.hcp4.net/jones