



**NEWS RELEASE**

For media inquiries, contact: Nick Wolda  
[nwolda@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](mailto:nwolda@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov)

## **Township invites community to compete in state-wide birding event**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (May 9, 2022) – The Woodlands Township invites residents to join the Township team for the Great Texas Birding Classic on Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Lakeside Park, 5001 West Alden Bridge Drive. Residents of all ages are invited to bring a lawn chair and binoculars and stay for the day, or even just a few hours, to take part in this free community event.

The Great Texas Birding Classic is an annual competition held across Texas to determine which team can identify and count the most birds during a specific window of time. Teams select a competition category and a date between April 15 and May 15 to compete, which aligns with the peak of spring migration. The Woodlands is placed within two flyways, making it a prime place to observe and learn about birds.

The Township team will compete in the “Big Sit” category with team members documenting as many birds as they can see and hear throughout the day. Lakeside Park is a premium birding location, offering a wide variety of birds to observe. Township Environmental Services staff members will guide participants, particularly those who are new to birding, with a limited supply of binoculars to borrow. Pre-registration is not required; simply stop by the park to participate.

In addition to the Great Texas Birding Classic, the Township recently launched the Backpack Birding program, which lends residents of The Woodlands, free of charge, a backpack filled with all the necessary supplies to observe and identify the rich array of local bird species. Residents 18 and older, may borrow a backpack for up to one week. To reserve a backpack, please call the Township’s Environmental Services Department at 281-210-3800.

### **Additional Events for Birdwatchers**

- **Virtual BioBlitz** – The Woodlands Township will host a weeklong BioBlitz, a community effort to identify as many species as possible during National Pollinator Week, June 20 - 26, 2022. National Pollinator Week brings attention to the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Created by Pollinator.org, this worldwide celebration is also a call to action to save bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles.



For questions or additional information about the Great Texas Birding Classic or birding opportunities in The Woodlands, please email [enviro@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](mailto:enviro@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov) or call 281-210-3800.

Special thanks to Visit The Woodlands, the tourism and destination marketing arm of The Woodlands Township, for sponsoring the Township team.

For more information about The Woodlands Township, please visit [www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](http://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov) or call 281-210-3800.



*The Woodlands Township invites the community to take part in the Great Texas Birding Classic on Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Lakeside Park. This event is free and open to all ages.*