

# RIVER PARK WEST

KEEPING YOU INFORMED, EDUCATED AND CONNECTED

VOL 4- ISSUE 6

June 2023





# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Greetings RiverPark West!

The pool is officially open for summer during normal hours. Pool cards that were active last year are still valid and you do not need to take further action.

If you need a new/replacement card, please submit the Amenity Access Registration form along with the appropriate payment (if needed) via the on site mailbox 24 hours per day. Checks should be made payable to RiverPark West POA. Cards will be issued once all documents/payment are in order.

If you have an older card that isn't working, please send the last 5 digits of your card number to [rpwcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:rpwcoordinator@gmail.com) along with your name and property address, responses will be sent during business hours.

Please be advised that we are enforcing a zero tolerance policy for disrespect towards the lifeguards and failure to follow pool safety rules. Any resident, their guest, or minors under their supervision who refuse to adhere to lifeguard warnings, reminders, or requests will be removed from the pool for the remainder of the day.

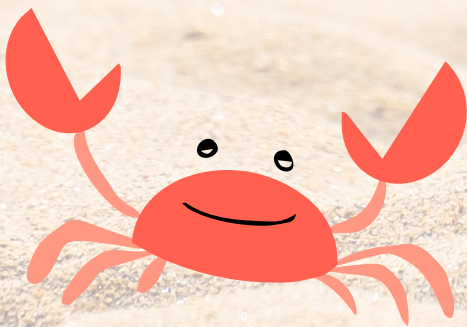
There is to be no glass, no smoking/vaping, alcohol consumption, loud music or foul language in or around the pool. Each resident must use their own card to enter and close the gate behind them. Anyone who is allowed to enter after your card swipe will be considered a guest of your household whom you will be liable for supervising.

We ask that everyone remain courteous and respectful to their neighbors, and report any issues that can not be resolved via the lifeguards.

Access to the pool and clubhouse are for members in good standing. If you have a balance on your account, please reach out to Cheryl with Crest Management regarding payment/payment arrangements. Cards will be reactivated once your account is brought current.

We hope you make plans to join us for RiverPark West's annual meeting which will be held on Monday, July 17th. at Hutchison Elementary from 6-8:30 p.m.

Thank you to all the wonderful neighbors who make RiverPark West the best place to call home.





# RESIDENT CORNER

## MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Crest Management - 281-579-0761  
[www.crest-management.com](http://www.crest-management.com)

Community Manager - Melanee 281-945-4677  
Contact for maintenance items,  
contractor issues and Board requests.  
[MelaneeB@crest-management.com](mailto:MelaneeB@crest-management.com)

Assistant Manager - Beth 281-945-4633  
Contact for architectural control matters  
and deed restriction violations  
[bethr@crest-management.com](mailto:bethr@crest-management.com)

Community Accountant-Cheryl 281-945-4652  
Contact for payment and accounting matters.  
[Cheryl@crest-management.com](mailto:Cheryl@crest-management.com)

## ONSITE & EVENTS COORDINATOR

Dee Norman  
Email: [rpwcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:rpwcoordinator@gmail.com)  
346-380-9743

## COMMUNITY WEBSITES

[www.facebook.com/RiverParkWest](http://www.facebook.com/RiverParkWest)  
[www.riverparkwestonline.org](http://www.riverparkwestonline.org)  
[www.fbcmud121.org](http://www.fbcmud121.org)

Richmond Post Office - Have mail concerns or need to obtain a mailbox key? Visit the Post Office in person at 5560 FM 1640 RD 77469, Richmond Texas with a copy of proof of ownership documents or lease agreement Mon-Fri 9 AM-5 PM, Sat 9 AM-12 PM, Sun Closed

Informed Delivery - This feature sends a daily picture of all the mail for the owner's address to a registered email address before the carrier touches it. Click Track and Manage, Informed Delivery, Check for Eligibility. Visit [USPS.com](http://USPS.com).

## BOARD INFORMATION

Armando DeHoyos - President  
Larry Wilson - Vice President  
Jorge Diaz - Secretary/Treasurer

Board Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of every month being open to the public for all homeowners at 7:00 PM. Confirmed meeting dates are notified 72 hours in advance on the official community website and sent via email to registered emails.

Please be sure to register your email to stay informed.

Trash Collection & Heavy Pick-Up days are Mondays & Thursdays (Recycling & heavy trash on Monday) - Residents can contact WCA directly for payment and trash container request by phone 281-368-8377 or by email [riverparkwest@wcamerica.com](mailto:riverparkwest@wcamerica.com).

Street parking complaints can be reported directly to Fort-bend County Sheriff Dept. 281-341-4665 press #4 for Dispatch or from the web site. Click on 'Report a Traffic Complaint' and fill in the blanks then submit at [www.fortbendcountytexas.gov](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov).

CenterPoint Energy maintains street lights throughout the community. Please use the form online to report a street light outage. If you need to report a power outage please call 713-207-2222.

To report street repairs in the community, please submit a maintenance request form online or contact the Fort Bend County Road & Bridge division at 281-342-4513.

[www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/government/departments-o-z/road-and-bridge/maintenance-request](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/government/departments-o-z/road-and-bridge/maintenance-request)

To report street & drainage concerns, questions about your water bill & usage, contact City of Richmond 281-342-5456.

For water billing questions, to report a water problem, pay tax bill, report street light outages, contact Fort Bend County MUD 121, [www.fbcmud121.org](http://www.fbcmud121.org).





# Texas Parks and Wildlife

## Federal Red Snapper Season Opens June 1

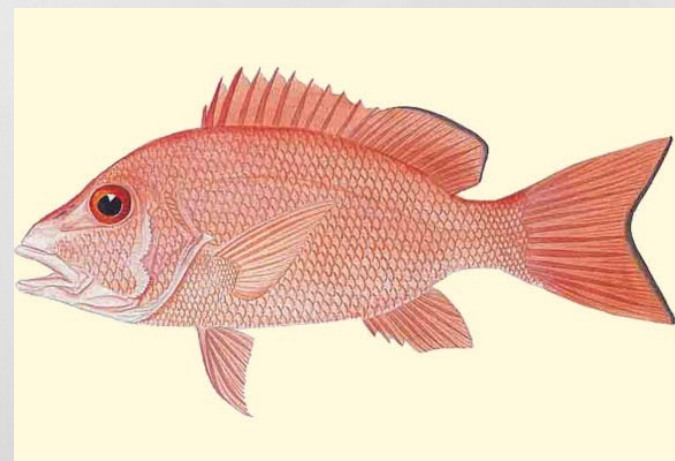
The private recreational angler red snapper season in federal water opens Thursday, June 1. Red snapper fishing is open year-round in state waters. Bag and size limits will remain unchanged.

The regulations for red snapper are two fish per person daily with a 16-inch minimum size limit in federal waters, and four fish per person daily with a 15-inch minimum in state waters. Red snapper caught in federal waters count as part of the state bag limit of four fish. No more than 2 red snapper can be in possession while in federal waters and no more than 4 red snapper can be in possession in state waters while fishing.

Per the 2022 DESCEND Act, all commercial and recreational anglers must possess a venting tool or a rigged descending device on their boat while fishing for reef fish in federal water. Research shows that properly releasing reef fish, such as red snapper, reduces mortality. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission adopted rules inspired by the DESCEND Act at the March 2023 Commission meeting. These new regulations go into effect September 1, for all commercial and recreational anglers fishing in state water. Texas regulations require the use of a venting tool or rigged descending device for reef fish exhibiting signs of barotrauma.

“As always, our goal is to give Texas anglers as many days as possible fishing in federal water for red snapper while still maintaining our traditional yearlong fishery in Texas state waters,” said Robin Riechers, Coastal Fisheries Division Director.

The public will be notified of the private recreational season closing date by the Coastal Fisheries Division before the state’s allotted catch limit has been reached. When a closing date is determined, all communication platforms will be updated, including the Outdoor Annual, website and social media accounts.







Life's better outside.®



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Pollinators of Texas

In Texas, pollinators are bats, bees, hummingbirds, butterflies, moths, wasps, flies, and beetles.



## Pollinators uphold ecosystems all over the planet

- Up to 80% all plant species are pollinated, mostly by insects.
- Three quarters of all the world's most common human food crops require insect pollination.
- These include: coffee, tea, chili, berries, tomatoes, fruit and nut trees, spices, and vegetables.
- Additionally, fields of livestock crops, such as alfalfa and clover, are pollinated by insects.

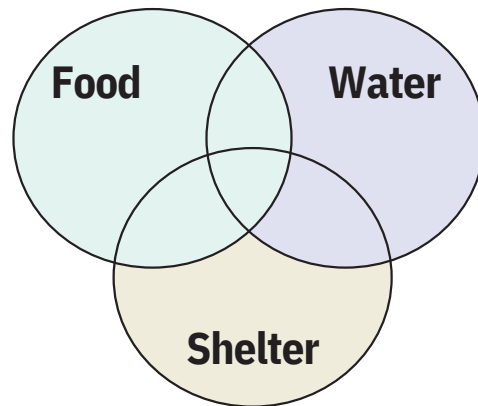
*In her lifetime, one bee can pollinate 5000 blossoms!*



## What do pollinators need?

Pollinators need plants that provide pollen and/or nectar; and some insect larval stages need food plants. Nectar plants are blooming flowers that provide nectar—a sweet liquid produced by some flowers. Pollen is available from all flowering plants but not all pollen is desirable. Food plants are those that caterpillars (larval stage of butterflies and moths) live on and eat for nutrients.

Pollinators need water sources to survive. They can extract water from the nectar sources or the plants they chew on but some prefer either open water in sunny locations or even muddy spots. Some butterflies are attracted to salty, sandy areas called puddlings. Providing water sources is easy – you can choose plants, like honeysuckles that hold water, place dishes of water in sunny areas, or create a muddy spot.



Shelter can come in many forms: bare ground (e.g. ground-nesting bees), banks and cliff faces, and various vegetative structures, including undersides of leaves, rotting wood, or stem pith. Diversity in vegetation (trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs) provides many sheltered niches for pollinators to utilize as both nesting and loafing sites. Easy-to-make bee boxes/blocks provide needed shelters in urban areas where dead trees are not present.



## Ten Things You Can Do In Your Yard To Encourage Pollinators.

1. Plant a pollinator garden—provide nectar and feeding plants (flowers and herbs).
2. Provide a water source—place shallow dishes of water in sunny areas or create a muddy spot.
3. Provide shelter and overwintering habitat (bee boxes, undisturbed soil areas, and piles of woody debris).
4. Stop using insecticides and reduce other pesticides.
5. Provide sunny areas out of the wind.
6. Use native plant species whenever possible—mimic local natural areas.
7. Grow flowers throughout season. Provide a variety of colors and shapes.
8. Plant in clumps and layers. Use trees, shrub layers, with some low-growing perennials and vines—intermix with flowering annuals.
9. Use compost instead of commercial fertilizers.
10. Look but do not touch.





# Sunday, June 18th



## Happy Father's Day!

**1** Dads report eating breakfast with their kids **FOUR** days of the week



**2** DAD'S TOP 3 PICKS



Bacon & Eggs    Chocolate    Waffles

**3** WHEN DAD'S IN THE KITCHEN, CEREAL, FRUITS, MILK IS LIKELY ON THE BREAKFAST TABLE



**4** DAD COOKS BREAKFAST BUT MOSTLY ON WEEKENDS



**5** BE CREATIVE, Make him cupcakes, and dress them up so they look really pretty, as well as delicious.



Enjoy this day with your Dad!

# Monday, June 19th

## JUNETEENTH

### WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

Also known as Jubilation Day, Emancipation Day or America's Second Independence Day, Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of enslaved people directly following the Civil War.



### WHAT DATE IS IT CELEBRATED?

Traditionally Juneteenth is celebrated on the 19th of June. The anniversary of Union troops releasing an order to free all enslaved people in Galveston Texas. General Order No.3, read by General Gordon Granger on June 19th 1865.



### Early Celebrations of Juneteenth and Jubilee Day

Celebrations organised on the anniversary of the emancipation in Texas organised by newly freed communities.

Due to segregation laws, often celebrations could not be held in public parks or areas. In response black communities would often pool their funds and purchase land for these celebrations and more. Emancipation Park in Houston is one example, originally 10 acres bought by community leaders for the celebration of Juneteenth.



Early celebrations often used as political rallies

Ways of celebrating included rodeos, fishing, baseball, large meals and pilgrimages by ex-slaves and their families.

1980

2008

2019

### Official Recognition of Juneteenth



Texas became the first state to recognise Juneteenth in 1980.



By 2008, nearly half of states observed the holiday as a ceremonial observance.



By 2019, 47 states and the District of Columbia recognized Juneteenth, leaving only Hawaii, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

### How is Juneteenth Celebrated Today?

- With the use of the Juneteenth Flag
- Public readings of the emancipation proclamation
- Readings from contemporary and historical black authors and public figures
- Lectures, exhibitions and educational displays on African American culture and history
- Picnics, rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, park parties, historical reenactments, blues festivals and Miss Juneteenth contests







## Why is Juneteenth Celebrated on June 19th?

The Emancipation Proclamation was the official end of Slavery in the United States. However the enforcement of the proclamation relied heavily on the advance of Union troops. Many of the confederate states were remote and so it took some time for the Union Troops to advance and enforce the proclamation.

As Union troops advanced through confederate states they enforced the emancipation proclamation and freed enslaved men, women and children. As communities were freed from slavery, celebrations would break out, often known as jubilees. These jubilees followed the advance of the Union army and occurred at various dates throughout the southern United States. States like Delaware and Kentucky kept practising chattel slavery until 1866 and some of the Indian territories also held out with the practise. The last confederate state to hold slaves was Texas however. This is why we celebrate on the anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in Texas. It marked the end of widespread ownership of human beings in the South, and therefore the remainder of the USA.

Union Troops announced complete emancipation on June 19th 1865 in Galveston Texas.

Due to this being the last real stronghold and therefore chronologically the last emancipation, this is the day which quickly became celebrated. That's right! Juneteenth isn't, as some believe a celebration of the end of slavery. As stated previously some states continued practicing slavery until 1866.

### Early Juneteenth Celebrations

On the one year anniversary of the Union armies general order 3. This order informed the people of Texas that slavery was officially over, causing widespread celebration among the freed community. Jubilee Day was born. Men women and children of these newly freed communities would begin a celebration every year on the anniversary of their emancipation in Texas. Jubilee Day, as it was then known, was as important politically as it was culturally. Rallying the communities politically with voting instruction and education were vital to the survival of these new freedoms. That's not to say it wasn't a joyous occasion. However you look at it, early Juneteenth celebrations were joyous occasions for these communities. This tradition continues to this day.

Early celebrators of Jubilee Day were hampered by segregation laws which forbade the newly freed slaves from using public parks and areas for their celebrations. In response black communities across Texas would organise collections and pool funds to buy plots of land which would then be used for celebrations.

The event was added to the yearly calendar of events in Texas by 1872 and began to really gather steam as a public holiday. In 1898 an estimated 30,000 men, women and children met at Booker T. Washington park in Limestone County, Texas for the Juneteenth celebrations. By the 1890s the name Jubilee Day was abandoned and celebrations are now cemented as Juneteenth.

### Decline of Juneteenth

The early 20th Century saw a rapid decline in popularity for the celebration. The Jim Crow laws in the south made black people second class citizens which negatively affected the celebrations. Another large factor in the decline is quite simple. Previously options and opportunities for African Americans were slim to none. With Emancipation the Great Depression was another factor in the decline of Juneteenth in this period. As work opportunities dried up the priority of taking a day off for Juneteenth became less and less of an option for working families. Beginning in the 1930s a revival of sorts for the holiday began to take shape. The annual Texas State Fair became a focal point for the celebrations. In 1936 an estimated 150,000 – 200,000 people joined celebrations.

### The Great Migration

From 1940 through 1970, in the second wave of the Great Migration, more than five million black people left Texas, Louisiana and other parts of the South for the North and the West Coast. With them the celebrations of Juneteenth were brought from Texas to New York, Los Angeles and other major cities as they went.

The Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s saw another revival of Juneteenth celebrations. As many black Americans tied the event to their struggle for equality, many protesters and activists began wearing Juneteenth buttons.

### Official Recognition and Growth

The Texas legislature declared Juneteenth to be a holiday of significance in 1979, making Texas the first state to make it an official State Holiday in 1980.

In 1997, following attempts to have Juneteenth Independence Day officially recognised, Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 11. Joint resolution 11 recognised the day as important. However activists are continuing to work towards pushing Congress to recognise Juneteenth as a national holiday, with some successes! As of the time of writing this article, President Joe Biden has just passed a law making Juneteenth a national holiday. Whilst this meant rewriting large parts of the article this is brilliant news for the movement and America as a whole.

In 2020 and 2021, State governors in New York, Virginia, New Jersey and Louisiana have all recognised Juneteenth as a paid day of leave for state employees.

### The need for Further Recognition of Juneteenth

The recognition for the day of celebration is far from widespread. Despite attempts and protests, Juneteenth was not an official federal holiday despite most states recognising it in some way or other. The Senate did however pass a simple resolution in 2018 to honor the day. Despite these steps many believed these steps were far too lacklustre for America's second independence day!

Most states do recognize Juneteenth in some way, either as a ceremonial observance or a state holiday. As mentioned before, Texas became the first state to recognise Juneteenth in 1980. By 2008, nearly half of states observed the holiday as a ceremonial observance. By 2019, 47 states and the District of Columbia recognized Juneteenth, leaving only Hawaii, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

As of June 18th President Joe Biden officially passed a law recognising Juneteenth as a National Holiday. A huge boost and many believe this to be an important step. Reports suggest that this years Juneteenth will have an added boost to celebrations across the country. There are however still steps to make and it will be interesting to see how far this goes. We can't ignore just how important this is for the African American community however.

### How is Juneteenth Celebrated

Juneteenth is the longest running African American holiday in the US Although the early years of the Holiday saw different kinds of celebrations. Usually with baseball, fishing and rodeos. Another key aspect would be a pilgrimage of former slaves and their families to Galveston Texas.

Nowadays the celebration is a much more public observance, with people of all races and cultures joining the festivities and remembrances.

Traditionally celebrations will feature one or more of the following

- Public readings of the emancipation proclamation
- Readings from contemporary and historical black authors and public figures
- Lectures, exhibitions and educational displays on African American culture and history
- picnics, rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, park parties, historical reenactments, blues festivals and Miss Juneteenth contests

Juneteenth is seen by many as an opportunity to instill pride in African American heritage and culture. The holiday is an opportunity to celebrate many aspects of African American culture. Educational aspects are also commonly linked with voter registration drives, an important tool in furthering equality. As the holiday and awareness thereof spreads it helps to know as much as possible about the history of the day.





Life's better outside.®

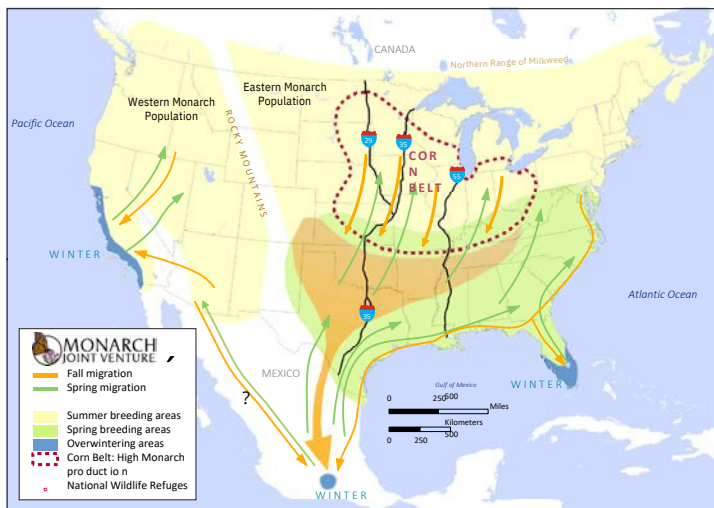
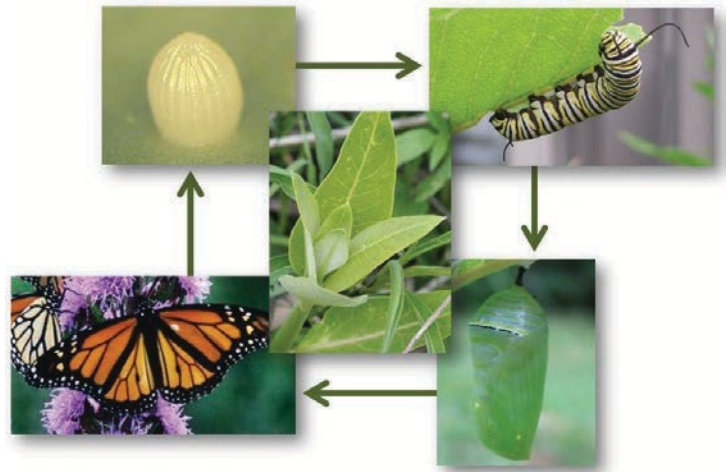
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Monarchs of Texas

## Monarchs of Texas

The monarch butterfly is one of the most beautiful and recognizable insects on earth, but it needs our help. The monarch is losing its habitat, and more importantly, it is losing its milkweed plants that used to grow in that habitat, which monarchs depend upon for laying eggs and caterpillar food. As a result, its populations across the United States and into Canada and Mexico have been dropping by about 90% over the past 20 years, reflecting a drop of about 970 million individuals by 2015.

To reverse its pressing threats (mainly loss of habitat and native milkweed plants due to urban development; shifts in agricultural practices; land management activities, such as mowing and herbicide applications along roadsides and rights-of-way; use of insecticides; severe weather events likely related to climate change; and degradation of wintering habitat in Mexico and California) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proactively working with partners to conserve the monarch.



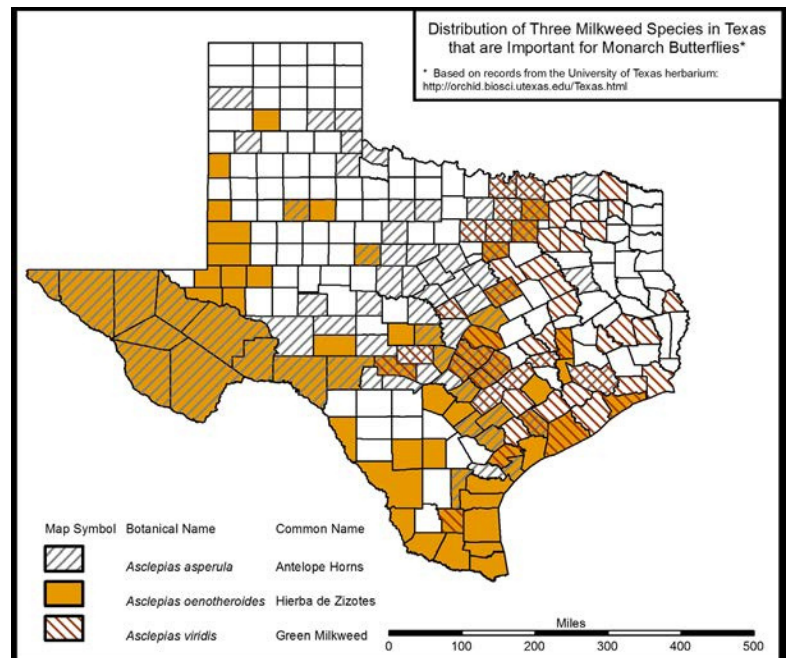
## Key Recovery Actions

Habitat restoration; milkweed and native flower seed production; outreach and education; and research and monitoring are key aspects of this effort. Many of the projects will focus on the I-35 corridor from Texas to Minnesota, areas that provide important spring and summer breeding habitats in the eastern monarch population's central flyway. Texas has the most native milkweed species of any state with 37 species. We are working to increase milkweed availability for public planting of natives and to maintain the genetic diversity of Texas's high number of native milkweeds.

## You can help too!

Consider planting local, native milkweed and other native flowering plants in your garden to help the monarch.

Together, we can restore the monarch and help all pollinators by providing milkweed and its needed flowering native grassland habitat, to enable the butterfly to complete its life cycle and amazing migration. By conserving and connecting habitat for monarchs, we will benefit other plants and animals, including critical insect and avian pollinators.





# Bang Bang Chicken

## Ingredients:

- ⅓ cup milk
- 1 large egg
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes
- ¼ cup potato starch
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon shichimi togarashi (Japanese red pepper condiment)
- 2 cups oil for frying, or as needed
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons sweet chili sauce
- 1 teaspoon gochujang (Korean hot pepper paste)



- Step 1 - Whisk together milk and egg in a large bowl until well combined. Add chicken; stir to coat and allow to marinate for 15 minutes. Drain and discard egg mixture.
- Step 2- Combine potato starch, flour, salt, pepper, and shichimi in a medium bowl. Pour into a large plastic resealable bag. Add chicken; seal the bag and shake until chicken is well coated.
- Step 3- Heat 2 inches oil in a deep saucepan over medium heat to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C)
- Step 4- Working in batches of about 5 to 8 pieces at a time, cook chicken in hot oil for about 90 seconds. Remove to a paper towel-lined plate; keep each batch separate.
- Step 5- Increase oil temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). The oil should be continuously boiling at this point. Carefully re-add the first batch of chicken and fry for another 90 seconds. Remove to another paper towel-lined plate. Repeat with remaining batches of chicken.
- Step 6- Mix together mayonnaise, honey, sweet chili sauce, and gochujang in a large serving bowl until combined. Toss fried chicken with sauce to coat



# Events Around Town June



## Movies On The Lawn at First Colony Mall

16535 Southwest Fwy  
Sugar Land, TX 77479

June 3 | "Toy Story"  
June 10 | "Cruella"  
June 17 | "Enchanted"  
June 24 | "The Parent Trap"

## SMART FINANCIAL EVENTS

Jun 2- Jay Wheeler  
Jun 16- Jill Scott  
Jun 18- Dream Theater with Devin Townsend and Animals as Leaders  
Jun 24- My Playlist 000's Tour  
Jun 25- George Lopez  
Jun 28- Bryan Adams

July 1- Enrique Guzman  
July 2- RuPaul's Drag Race  
July 7- Eslabon Armado  
July 14- Marca MP  
July 15- Luis R Conriquez  
July - Jackson Browne  
July 22- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone In Concert

happy  
**Father's  
Day**

Farmers Market at Imperial  
234 Matlage Way  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Saturday  
Location: farmers Market at Imperial  
Time: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Price: free



## Day of the Dad - Music in the Square: The 70's Rock Experience

2711 Plaza Drive  
Sugar Land, TX 77479  
Dates: June 16, 2023  
Time: 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM  
Price: Free

SUGAR  
LAND  
town  
SQUARE

PRESENTS...

FEATURING  
AM/FM  
BAND

# DAY OF THE DAD

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

7:30 - 9:30PM

## NEED TO RESERVE THE CLUBHOUSE?

To make a reservation for the clubhouse, please visit [www.riverparkwestonline.org](http://www.riverparkwestonline.org) and click on Reservations. For questions, contact your Community Coordinator, Dee Norman at 346-380-7743 or via email - [rpwcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:rpwcoordinator@gmail.com)

You are required to read the Clubhouse Rules & Rental Contract. Dates are first come/first served. The rental rules and contract must be completed and submitted to the clubhouse office to receive approval along with payment of \$50 for the rental fee and the \$215 security deposit which is refundable. (Please submit two separate checks) Make sure you have your pool access card as the card will be your key for the clubhouse.

To reserve a time slot please submit your name, property address, date/time of rental (please include set up time and clean up time), last 5 digits of your access card and event type. Maximum reserve time is 10 hours.

Your HOA account must be paid current for your reservation to be approved.

RiverPark West Community events that require the usage of the clubhouse will take precedence over any individual reservations. These events are on the Reservation Calendar and the Community Events Calendar.





## Residents of Riverpark West POA

Your community has launched a Nabr Network mobile app and website for your community!  
Please check your email for a welcome email with login credentials.

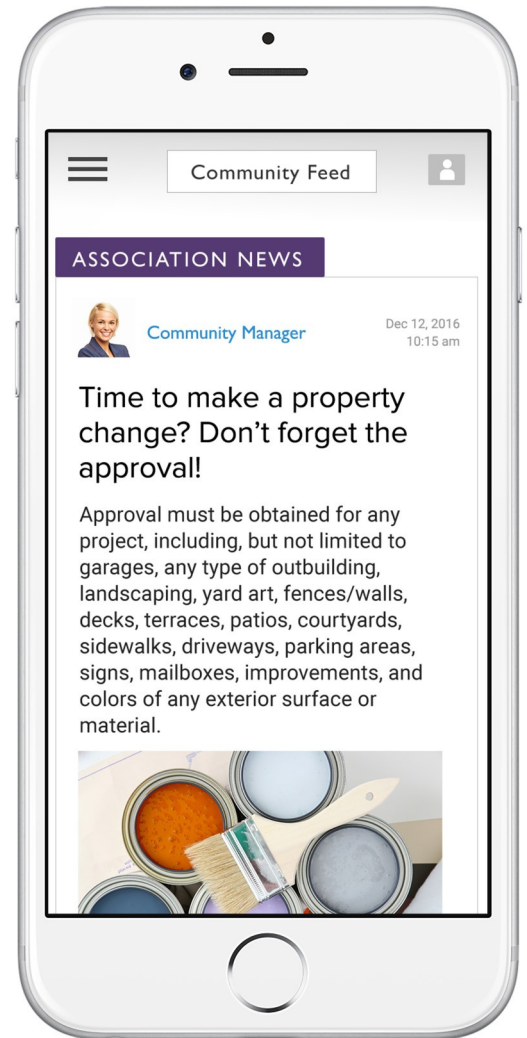
### Get important HOA information and connect with your association:

- Receive notifications, messages and reminders from your HOA and HOA management company
- Find HOA documents, forms and events information
- Find contact information for the HOA management company

### There are multiple ways to access the website and app:

- Follow the link in the welcome email or go to [riverparkwest.nabrnetwork.com](http://riverparkwest.nabrnetwork.com)
- Text "nabr" to 59248 and receive a text back with an app download link
- Search for the mobile app "Nabr Network" in Apple or Google Play store

If you do not receive a welcome email, use the "Not Registered" link and follow the instructions. If you are a new resident to the community, it June take a few days for the management company to confirm your residency. An email notification with login credentials will be sent to you once you are authorized. If you have any issues or need login support, please contact Nabr Network support ([support@nabrnetwork.net](mailto:support@nabrnetwork.net)).



GET THE APP! TEXT "nabr" to  
59248

Message & data rates June apply. Text STOP to opt out or HELP for help.

Privacy Policy (<https://nabrnetwork.com/privacypolicy.php>). Terms of Use (<https://nabrnetwork.com/termsfuse.php>).

This website and app is operated and supported by Nabr Network and the Nabr Network software platform. For more information or technical support, contact Nabr Network at [support@nabrnetwork.net](mailto:support@nabrnetwork.net)

