



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

City of Dripping Springs Parks & Community

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PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – 2021

REFLECTING – A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



It is with great pleasure that the Parks and Community Services team presents our 2021, Department Annual Report highlighting our many significant accomplishments over the past year. We all continued to witness the important role parks, programs, and events played in improving and maintaining the health and wellness of our community throughout the year. Dripping Springs parks experienced their highest usage numbers during this time, not only residents, but many who were passing through on their way to adventures in the hill country and day trippers from Austin. The past year clearly illustrated that parks contribute to the vitality and well-being of our community and serve as a respite for centering and connecting with nature.

Planning, upkeep, and operations continued to move forward during the year. Some of the department highlights include:

- Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Event Center returned to almost regular operations in 2021. While Covid-19 still impacted attendee turn out, the event promoters were anxious to resume some sense of normalcy. The Ranch Park & Event Center team hosted a myriad of community events and first-time offerings of wildly successful youth programs such as Tween Scene, Kenny Reed Skate Camp, and Coyote Kids Nature Camp. Tween Scene provided a weekly Thursday Night event during the summer for youth ages 9-14 to play and connect with peers. Activities included roller skating, playing dodgeball and kickball, gaming, obstacle courses, and many other activities. The program served more than 500 Dripping Springs tweens, doubling in attendance each week.
- Coyote Kids Nature Camp was launched in-person and sold out each week. This program provided hiking, nature-centric guest speakers and thematic camp weeks, and outdoor educational activities. The favorite of campers was no doubt the camp week wrap up campfire, filled with camp songs and coyote pack skits. The program is destined to grow into a departmental legacy program that provides a unique day camp experience that immortalizes and produces residential camp level memories.
- Founders Memorial Pool opened for the 2021 season to regular operations with a streamlined pool schedule, returning and new friendly aquatics staff, new facility manager, and the return of our beloved Tiger Splash swim team. The pool continued to be improved and updated; a new commercial grade heater and chlorination and UV sanitization systems were installed as well as phase 1 of the pool deck expansion project completed.
- As an essential city service, the weekly Dripping Springs Farmers Market continued to provide its consistent and locally sourced produce, meats, baked goods, and other craft delectable delights. The Farmers Market team honed business operations and expanded marketing reach and tools and by doing so, ensured that once again the DSFM was voted Best in Texas for the 4th year.
- Park system operational improvements were planned for and achieved in 2021. The Dripping Springs Ranch Park Master Plan update and the Dripping Springs Park System Wayfinding Signage Plan & Guidelines were developed. Both tools will serve as guides for a 5-year strategy to improve and connect the parks for our community in a cohesive manner.

We will continue to work hard to provide a model park system for all citizens and visitors to Dripping Springs to enjoy and be proud of. We are committed to fostering community by preserving parks and open space, by connecting people to our natural resources and cultural history, and by offering engaging programs and events.

In conclusion, the PCS team would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mayor Bill Foulds, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Taline Manassian, and Council Members Wade King, Geoffery Tahuahua, April Harris Allison, and Sherrie Parks for their support and leadership throughout the year. A special thank you to City Administrator, Michelle Fischer for her unwavering consistent guidance and unparalleled public service leadership! Also, a SHOUT OUT to all other city departments and community partners for their hard work, continued support, teamwork, and collaboration – we couldn't do it without you!

See you in the parks and on the trails,

Kelly Schmidt, MSRLS, CPRP
Parks & Community Services Director

MISSION, COMMISSIONS, & BOARD

DEPARTMENT MISSION

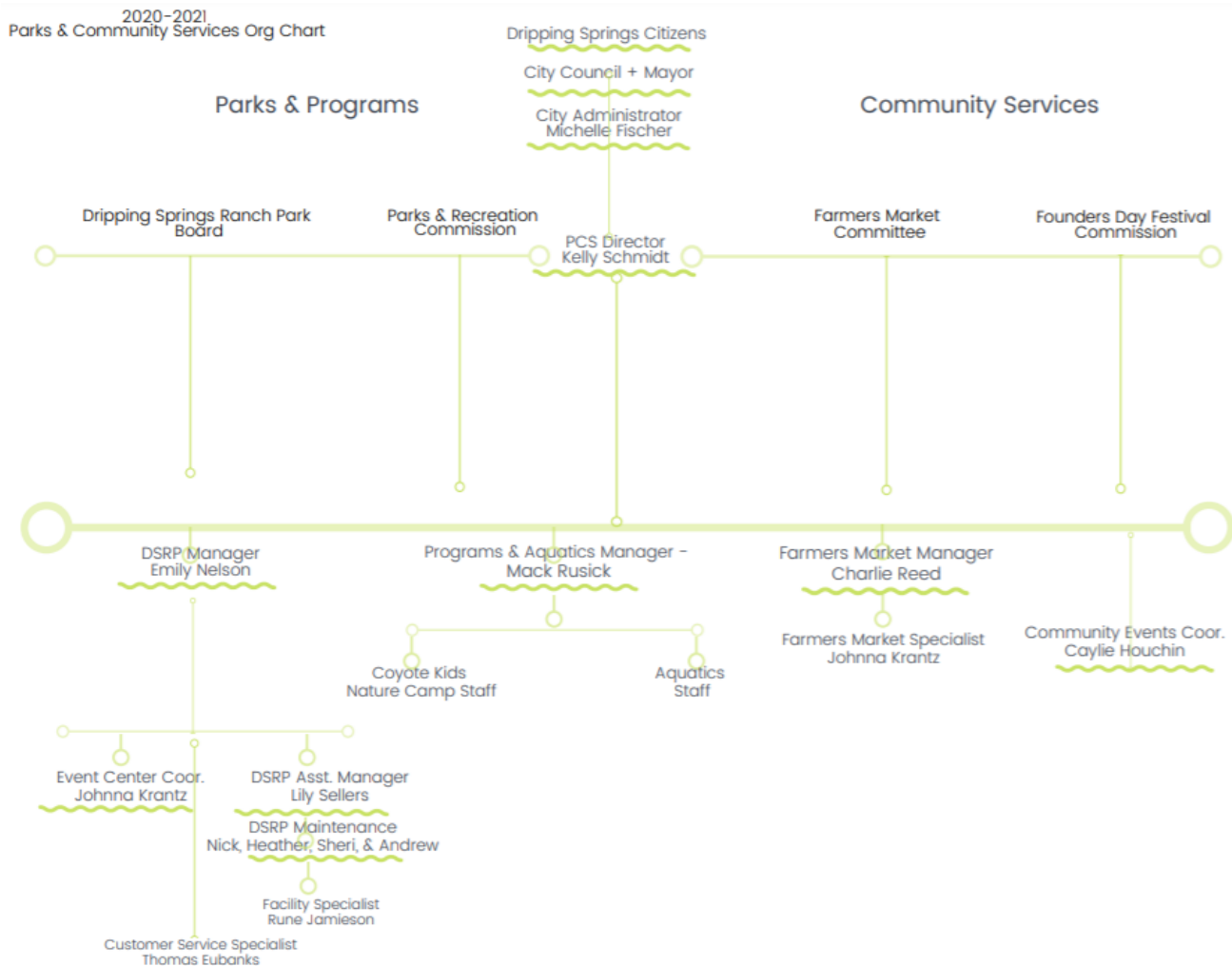
“It is our mission to foster community by preserving parks and open space, by connecting people to our natural resources and cultural history and by offering engaging programs and events.”



PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, & BOARD MEMBERS 2020 - 2021

Position	Dripping Springs Ranch Park Board	Farmers Market Committee	Founders Day Commission	Parks & Recreation Commission
Chair	Todd Purcell	Gouri Johnsen	Brenda Medcalf	Eric Henline
Vice- Chair	Terry Polk	Marianne Simmons	Jake Adams	Eric Russell
Secretary	Pam Owens	Theresa Strube	Brian Daniel	
Members	Penny Reeves Mike Carroll	Nikki Dahlin Claudia Oney Janet Musgrove Vacancy 1 Erika Fritz	Clinton Holtzendorf Dee Marsh Larry Hans Michael Monaghan Darrell Debish Danny Rowe Brian Varnell Jeff Schindler Sharon Goss Susan Warwick Brad Thomas	Paul Fishille Wade King Tara Satine Kristy Caldwell Matthew Fougerat Matthew Zarbaugh

PCS 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Director, Parks & Community Services Department – Kelly Schmidt (FT)

Manager, Dripping Springs Ranch Park – Emily Nelson (FT)

Manager, Farmers Market – Charlie Reed (FT)

Manager, Programs & Aquatics – Mack Rusick (FT)

Asst. Manager, Dripping Springs Ranch Park – Lily Sellers (FT)

Coordinator, Event Center – Johnna Krantz (FT)

Coordinator, Community Events – Caylie Houchin (FT)

Coordinator, Coyote Kids Camp – (Seasonal)

Ranch Hand, Lead – Nick Spillar (FT)

Ranch Hand, Sheri Kapanka (FT)

Ranch Hand, Heather Newman (FT)

Ranch Hand, Andrew Thompson (FT)

Facility Specialist, Rune Jamieson (PT)

Customer Service Specialist – Thomas Eubanks (PT)

Program Staff-

Camp Counselors (5) Seasonal

Aquatics Staff (20) Seasonal



COMMUNITY PARTNERS & BUSINESS SPONSORS

It takes a village...Throughout the year the Parks and Community Services department relies heavily on partnerships with community non-profits and businesses to assist us with fulfilling our mission. Together we are successful in our collaborative efforts to serve the Dripping Springs Community. Depicted below are partners that helped to elevate the PCS department's services in 2021. We are so thankful for their support.



Destination Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau

Destination Dripping Springs partnered with the Parks and Community Services Department by serving on the Texas Bird City Application Committee. The Visitors Bureau assisted PCS in achieving our mission by dedicating staff to serve on the DSRP Board, serving as a liaison for the city's Film Friendly City designation, and obtaining and spearheading the City's Music Friendly designation.



Dripping Springs Ag Boosters

Dripping Springs Ag Boosters is an essential partner of Dripping Springs Ranch Park Event Center. This organization is the key co-sponsor for the City of Dripping Springs' Annual Rodeo. Its mission is to preserve the cultural heritage of the Dripping Springs Community through our youth.



Dripping Springs Lions Club

Christmas on Mercer is an annual event that was successfully held in 2021. The partnership between Lions Club and the City of Dripping Springs evolves each year to produce an even better event than the year prior and 2021 was no exception. Attendance was upward of 8k and the event hosted over 100 vendors. The level of joy and Christmas spirit that the event created was not hindered this year.



Dripping Springs Mountain Bike Club

Dripping Springs Ranch Park (DSRP) is training home to the Dripping Springs Youth Mountain Bike Club. Through a park use agreement, the club provides an outlet for the youth of Dripping Springs to learn how to mountain bike and become passionate about the sport. They also learn the importance of trail etiquette as the DSRP park trails are utilized by hikers and horseback riders alike. Over the year the team practices every Tuesday & Thursday on the trails at DSRP and donate volunteer hours to the upkeep and care of the trails.



Dripping Springs Skate Park Initiative

The Dripping Springs community skate park grass roots initiative continues to thrive. The community members once again partnered with Parks and Community Services staff for a second presentation to Hays County Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission about the skate park project. The collaboration continued through weekly skate night events and two special skate camps held during the summer at Dripping Springs Ranch Park Event Center.



Dripping Springs Youth Sports Association

Partners with the Parks and Community Services Department by using city parks to provide a competitive youth sports recreation program. Their offerings include youth baseball, football, flag football, cheerleading, volleyball, softball, lacrosse, basketball, and soccer.



Hays County Livestock Board

Each year the Dripping Springs Ranch Park Event Center is home to the Hays County Livestock Show. This show and the Hays County Livestock Board is an essential partner for the Parks and Community Services Department. Not only does the event assist in the facilitation of the Department's mission for the Dripping Springs Community it improves the quality of life for many families throughout Central Texas. The Hays County Livestock show educates Texas youth on how to responsibly raise market-ready animals. This process instills important life and business values that participants will have for a lifetime.



The Dr. Pound Historical Farmstead

The Dr. Pound Historical Farmstead operates adjacent to Founders Memorial Park and elevates the PCS mission by providing a glimpse back in time to slower days in Dripping Springs. While 2021 did not allow for many days of operation, the Pound House continues to "connect people to our cultural history."

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & BUSINESS SPONSORS



Hays County Master Naturalists (HCMN) & Hays County Master Gardeners (HCMG)

HCMN & HCMG representatives served on the Bird City Application Committee for the second year and provided invaluable contributions. HCMN held monthly workdays (when appropriate and restrictions permitted) at both Dripping Springs Ranch Park and at Charro Ranch Park. Site coordinators began providing monthly reports that allow the PCS Director to better record the volunteer hours being contributed each year and approve/track the work being done. HCMG dedicated 567 volunteer hours to the Dripping Springs Community in 2021.

Tiger Splash



Tiger Splash partnered with the PCS department to provide a Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) Summer Recreational Swim Team program at Founders Memorial Pool. The program was canceled in 2020 due to Covid -19 so the Aquatics staff and Tiger Splash community were thrilled to have it return. The program provided a summer recreational competitive swim team program for 180 participants and their families.

The Melissa & Amy Team

MelissaAndAmyTeam@RealtyAustin.com



Melissa & Amy Team

Our 2021 Coyote Kids Nature Camp T-shirts and annual Halloween Movie hosted at Dripping Springs Ranch Park were sponsored by the Dripping Springs based Melissa & Amy Team of Realty Austin. Their generous donation/sponsorship help provide program support by reducing camp supply costs and hosting a wonderful free community movie each year.



Wild Birds Unlimited

Wild Bird Unlimited partnered with the PCS team on the Bird City Application Committee and dedicated several hours throughout the year toward meetings that produced an incredible collaborative application submittal. This generous partner also donates hours of time and energy to the community promoting bird conservation, appreciation, and the recreational pursuit of aviary observation.



Twisted X Brewing

Twisted X Brewing served as a sponsor for the Dripping Springs World Migratory Bird Day celebration – Festival of Flight that was held on May 8, 2021.



Ashley Tullis
Atomic Properties Group
License #0680993

Ashley Tullis – Atomic Properties Group

Ashley has been a long-standing supporter of Christmas on Mercer sponsoring Santa's arrival and photo shoot each year. In 2021 Ashley also sponsored the downtown community movie viewing of Elf the night before the Christmas on Mercer event. Approximately 150 community members were in attendance for the pre-event fun!

PARK IMPROVEMENTS & MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

CHARRO RANCH PARK – 64 Acres

- Each month (except for December) throughout 2021, the Charro Ranch Park Hays County Master Naturalists' work group dedicated an average of 284.5 volunteer hours toward the care and upkeep of Charro Ranch Park.

DRIPPING SPRINGS RANCH PARK – 130 Acres

- New walkway installed from round drive to Ranch House.
- Ranch House painted.
- Chimney Swift Tower Eagle Scout Project completed.
- Ranch House fire pit refurbished, and surround seating installed.
- Engineering plans completed for Ranch Park access road maintenance and drainage improvements.
- 134 volunteer hours were dedicated to service and upkeep by the Hays County Master Naturalists at DSRP in 2021,

FOUNDERS MEMORIAL PARK – 40 Acres

- Founders pool sanitization system changed from liquid chlorine to dry.
- UV Sanitization enhancement installed to Founders pool system.
- Founders pool deck expanded for first phase. Second phase consisting of cool deck application to occur in 2022.
- Commercial grade heater installed at Founders pool, replacing decommissioned domestic heaters.
- Parking lot expanded to the north end of the park creating an additional 50 parking spaces.
- Cactus Garden monument sign was replaced and installed by Big Sky development.

SPORTS AND RECREATION PARK – 40 Acres

- Several volunteer hours were dedicated to trash removal at Sports and Recreation Park by school groups.
- Resurfacing of the dilapidated basketball court was completed with a brilliant blue court color.
- Wooden Sports field bleachers repaired, and wood replaced.

RATHGEBER NATURAL RESOURCE PARK – 300 Acres

- Funding and project pitch was presented for a second time per request by the Hays County Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission 2.0. Funding award was not declared in 2021. The project remains in a holding pattern, but land management steps moved forward.
- Co-led with Robert Ellis (Dick Rathgeber's grandson) several stakeholder tours of Rathgeber Natural Resource Park.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK – 1.947 Acres

- Eagle Scout project improved stone and wood archway features near Veterans Memorial
- Daughters of the American Revolution improved area at the north end of the park installing small stone commemorative memorial.
- In December, a drainage project was completed by the Public Works department to aid with eliminating existing standing water in the park along Mercer Street. Natural bolder barriers were placed to prevent vehicular traffic from using the impaired area as parking during downtown and park events. The vehicular traffic was compounding the issue and its occurrence had to be eliminated.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Coyote Kids Nature Camp 2021 – Summer (Fee Based)



Coyote Kids Nature Camp took place at Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Event Center for its inaugural in-person season. The camp staff consisted of five counselors and one Camp Director. The team and program serviced over 450-day campers throughout the summer. The program features 10 thematic weeks filled with nature hikes, guided activities, guest speakers, campfires, skits, and s'mores.

Kenny Reed Skate Camp – June 2021 (Fee Based)



An upstate native, Kenny Reed spent 16 years as a **pro skateboarder**, traveling the world and bringing the sport of skateboarding to areas that had little or no experience with it before. In 2021, Kenny graced our community and teamed up with PCS to offer two weeks of skate camp at DSRP. At the time Kenny was a resident of Dripping Springs and wanted to give back to the community before he moved to California. The camp was open to youth ages 10+ and was well received by all who attended.

Swim Club 2021 – Summer (Fee Based)



A Youth Swim Club debuted this year for young swimmers ages 9-14yrs at Founders Community Pool. It was offered by PCS staff. The 60-minute class was held Monday -Thursday and we were pleased to see several kids participate throughout the summer. Students worked diligently on improving their swim skills and stroke technique while increasing their aquatic fitness. We had so much fun with this program and will offer it again in 2022.

DRIPPING SPRINGS RANCH PARK & EVENT CENTER



DRIPPING SPRINGS RANCH PARK

Categories	Budgeted	Actual 2020	Budgeted 2021	Actual 2021
Annual Memberships Sold		QTY 80	\$9000	QTY 90 \$11,706
Day Passes & Fees Collected	\$1,000	Qty 128 \$1,135	\$1,000	Qty 135 \$1,890
Stall Rentals	\$22,000	Qty 514 \$19,886	\$22,000	QTY 1,313 \$31,256
RV/Camping Rentals (Qty 366 /41) <i>(actual includes RV Dump fees Qty 76 2020 & 82 in 2021)</i>	\$22,500	Qty 200 \$12,090	\$18,000	Qty 407 \$20,323
Facility Rentals	\$165,000	\$43,456	\$112,000	\$77,989

DS PARKS & FOUNDERS COMMUNITY POOL



Founders Pool offered a Youth Swim Club this year for young swimmers ages 9-14yrs. The 60 min class was offered Mon-Thurs and we were pleased to see several kids participate throughout the summer. Students worked diligently on improving their swim skills and stroke technique and increasing their aquatic fitness. We had so much fun with this program and will offer it again next summer.

Categories	Budgeted	Actual 2021
FMP - Pavilion Rentals	\$2,350	QTY 35 \$6,283
FMP - Pool Rentals	\$800	QTY 9 \$2,080
FMP - Tiger Splash Use Agreement	\$10,900	\$10,272
FMP - Pool Pass Purchases	\$1,500	QTY 121 \$13,415
FMP - Pool Daily Drop-in (QTY 4672) (1543 w/pass)	\$6,000	QTY 3,129 \$11,313
FMP - Swim Lessons, Red Cross	\$26,450	\$2,130
FMP – Athletic Field Rentals	\$900	QTY 9 \$4,230
Sports & Rec Park – Rentals	\$300	QTY 2 \$400
Veterans Memorial Park - Rentals	\$450	QTY 4 \$500



COMMUNITY EVENTS & SERVICES

Year-Round | Dripping Springs Farmers Market @ Veterans Memorial Park | Free



In 2020 the Dripping Springs Farmers Market was declared an essential city service by the Mayor of Dripping Springs. During 2021 the Market thrived while serving the community as a direct lifeline to locally sourced fresh produce, baked goods, and meats each Wednesday. The success of the market is a direct result of the desire of the community to have locally grown food and the efforts put forth by the Farmers Market staff and Committee.



Total Number of Vendor Booths	2021
Budgeted Revenue	\$80,116
Actual Revenue	\$83,214
Budgeted Expenses	\$52,281
Actual Expenses	\$25,895



Year-Round | Skate Night @ Dripping Springs Ranch Park | Free



Skate Night at Dripping Springs Ranch Park was a year-round, weekly skateboarding event held on Thursday evenings. On average, twenty (20) participants (adult and youth) were in attendance each week. It is completely run by adult volunteers. The program provides approximately 2,080 hours of recreational activity to Dripping Springs youth annually.

March | 1st Annual Poker Trail Ride @DSRP | Fee



COMMUNITY EVENTS & SERVICES (CONTINUED)

April | Founders Day Festival – Cancelled



With the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic in full escalation, the Founders Day Commission unanimously voted to cancel the event for the 2021 year. Founders Day Festival takes place in Dripping Springs' historic downtown district for a festive celebration of heritage and pioneer spirit. The city-wide event honors and celebrates the founding of the Dripping Springs community in 1850 by the Moss, Wallace, and Pound families. The three-day jubilee promotes cooperation and volunteerism in the community and generates community spirit and recreation.

The three-day celebration kicks off with the Grand Parade and includes free music and entertainment, the Mighty Thomas Carnival, food, beer, street dances, cook-off competitions, over 150 arts and crafts booths and business vendors. Hosted by the City of Dripping Springs and the Founders Day Commission, which includes representatives of various community organizations, the proceeds from the festival are donated back into the community and directly benefit local non-profit organizations, churches, school and park programs, youth groups, and charities.

May 8, 2021 | WMBD – Festival of Flight @ Charro Ranch Park | Free



Summer (June – August) | Tween Scene @ DSRP | Fee



Tween Scene was a popular weekly event in 2021. Each Thursday children ages 9-14 attended an offering of age-appropriate activities at the Event Center. While roller skating, dodgeball, and kickball were constant, new, and different activities were offered each week to keep the kids engaged and interested in returning for more fun with friends and PCS staff. Attendance numbers were recorded at more than 500 kids at this event this summer.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & SERVICES (CONTINUED)

July 24, 2021 | Float Flick @ Founders Community Pool | Fee



August 15, 2021 | Bark in the Park @ FMP & Community Pool | Free



October 8 | Dripping Springs Star Party @ DSRP | Fee



COMMUNITY EVENTS & SERVICES (CONTINUED)

October 21-23 | Dripping Springs Fair & Rodeo @ DSRP | Free



October 28 - 31 | Community Movie Night & Dead Hill Ranch Haunted House & Hayride



December 3 Holiday Community Movie @ Stephenson Bldg Lawn | Free



December 4, 2021 Christmas on Mercer - CoDS & Dripping Springs Lions Club | Free



- Estimated Attendance – 8,000
- Number of Vendors - 108
- Event Revenue – \$26,300
- Sponsorships \$15,500
- Booths \$10,800
- Event Expenses - \$12,019
- Lion's Club Revenue - \$14,280
- City Revenue – \$3,240
(30% of Booth Fees)

CITY INITIATIVES & VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



On December 16, 2021, the City of Dripping Springs and its collaborative Bird City Committee applied to become a designated Texas Bird City for the 3rd year in a row. The application process was arduous. The Bird City committee was comprised of city staff, Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau staff, Hays County Master Naturalists, and members of the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission. The team met monthly for over a five (5) month period while compiling and reporting on all activities to meet or exceed the various requirements of the application.



International Dark Sky Association designation initiative was extremely active in 2021 with passionate involvement from not only city staff but the City Administrator and Mayor as well. The Parks and Community Services team, Communications & Marketing Director and City Administrator played the primary implementation role of the city initiative and created components such as a proclamation designating a community “Lights Out” campaign that supported migratory birding seasons and night sky preservation as well as met a requirement of the Bird City application process. Support events included several “Star Parties” held in Dripping Springs parks for staff and the public to attend.

Dripping Springs Participated in the Great American Clean-Up originally scheduled for April 17 then rescheduled for April 24.





Sign up to participate at www.cityofdrippingsprings.com

We are really looking forward to keeping Dripping Springs Beautiful with you!

It's time for Keep America Beautiful's annual Great American Clean-Up | 2021. We'll gather at DSRP and head south toward downtown Dripping Springs. Let's see just how many bags of trash we can fill as we go. On our way back to the park, we'll turn our attention to the east side of Ranch Road 12 while we arrive back to our place of origin. For more information email: parks@cityofdrippingsprings.com

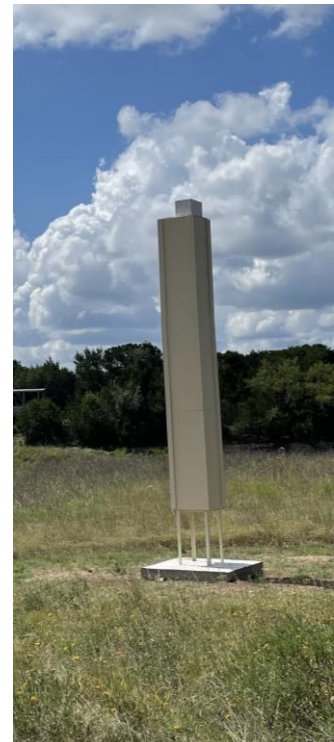
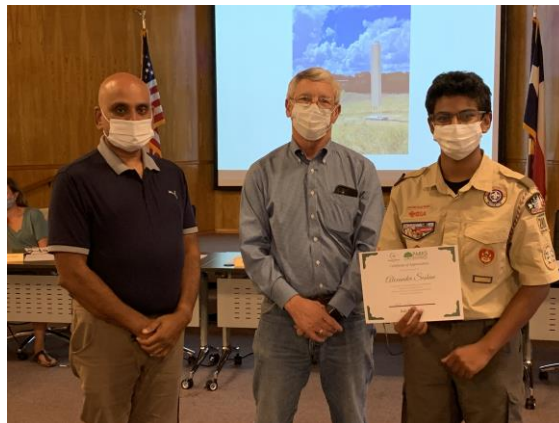




VOLUNTEERS



In addition to our monthly volunteer Hays County Master Naturalist work groups at Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Charro Ranch Park, on October 22, 2021, the Parks and Community Services Team hosted youth volunteer work groups at the parks from Skybridge Academy. The school youth volunteer group from Dripping Springs assisted with beautifying Sports and Recreation Park grounds and amenities. The PCS department also benefited from the completion of 1 Eagle Scout project installation of a chimney swift tower at Dripping Springs Ranch Park.



COMMUNITY SERVICES | CO-SPONSORSHIPS & PERMITS

The Community Services scope of the department focuses on processing Event Co-sponsorship requests, coordinating Triangle banner displays, issuing event-related permits, facilitating park rentals and city initiatives, and supporting city-wide events.

<u>Event Date & Name</u>	<u>Co-Sponsorship</u>
March 27&28 Wildflower Spring Market	Texas Market Guide
October 9-10 Hill Country Harvest Mkt	Helping Hands, TX Mkt Guide
October 10-31 DS Pumpkin Patch	DS United Methodist Church
October 15-17 Songwriter's Festival	DS Visitors Bureau
November 8 Empty Bowls	Helping Hands
November 14 Run by the Creek	DS Running Club
December 3-5 Vintage Market Days	Vintage Market Days
December 16 The Nutcracker	Arts Alliance of Central Texas

2021 - Banner Displays at the Triangle (RR12 & HWY 290)	
January	CoDS Shop Local Hays County Livestock Show DS Chamber Buy Local
February	Dripping Springs Chamber Buy Local Centra Hays County Livestock Show
March	Parks and Community Services Coyote Kids Nature Camp Helping Hands Sponsored Wildflower Spring Market
April	Parks & Community Services Coyote Kids Nature Camp Helping Hands Sponsored Wildflower Spring Market
May	Parks & Community Services Coyote Kids Nature Camp Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival
June	Parks & Community Services Coyote Kids Nature Camp Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival
July	Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival & Wedding Capitol
August	Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival & Wedding Capitol
September	Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival & Wedding Capitol
October	Dripping Springs Visitors Bureau Songwriters Festival & Wedding Capitol Dripping Springs United Methodist Church Pumpkin Patch Texas Market Guide Hill Country Harvest Market Dripping Springs Helping Hands Empty Bowls Parks & Community Services Haunted House @ DSRP Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club Chili Cook-Off Dripping Springs Running Club Run by The Creek Parks & Community Service Ranch Park Community Movie @ DSRP
November	Dripping Springs Rotary Club Veterans Day Dripping Springs Helping Hands Empty Bowls Parks & Community Services Haunted House @ DSRP CoDS & Lions Club Christmas on Mercer Parks & Community Services Community Movie @ Stephenson Building Field Dripping Springs Chamber Shop Small Saturday Vintage Market Days of Greater Austin Vintage Market Days
December	CoDS & Lion's Club Christmas on Mercer Parks & Community Services Community Movie @ Stephenson Building Field Vintage Market Days of greater Austin Vintage Market Days Arts Alliance of Central Texas The Nutcracker

Community Service Permits

Most of the permits the Parks and Community Services department issues are related to events within city limits or activities in the parks. The following reflects the number of permits issued in 2021.

Type of Permit	QTY
Business Operations in City Park Permits	1
Events on City Property or within City Limits Permits	8
Filming Permits	6
Itinerant Vendor License Permits	20
Road Closure Permits	2

PROCLAMATIONS & RESOLUTIONS

Proclamations

APRIL 13 – Carl & Susie Waits Day

JULY - Parks & Recreation Month

MARCH – MAY Lights Out Migratory Months

OCTOBER - Hill Country Night Sky Month



Resolutions

July 6 – Resolution No. 2021-R21 | Farmers Market Rules Amendment

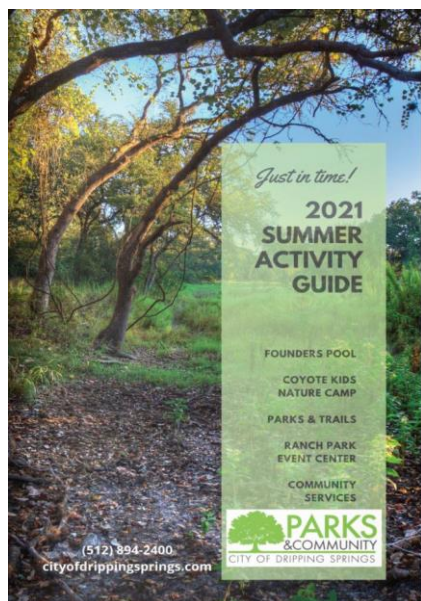
September 7 – Resolution No. 2021-R27 | Founders Park Parking Lot Expansion

November 2 – Resolution No. 2021-R34 | World Migratory Bird Day + Bird City Designation Application Approval



MARKETING & OUTREACH

Print

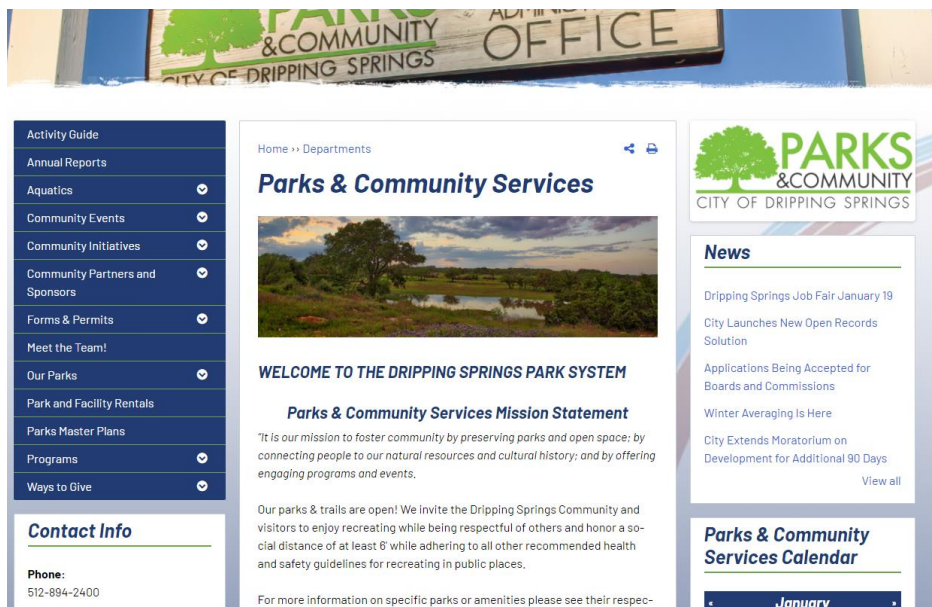


Parks & Community Services 2021 Summer Activity Guide

The Parks and Community Services department published and direct mailed to limited addresses its second activity guide. This publication serves as incredible branding for the department, a resource for community members, and a reference tool for staff all compiled in one comprehensive catalog. While still in its infancy and not on the radar of many community members its popularity is sure to expand over the years to come.

Website

The Parks & Community Services department's primary on-line presence in 2020 - 2021 was through the City's website & social media platforms such as Facebook.



The Parks and Community Services pages on the city's new website are a work in-progress. The full rebuild and service functionality were at 30% completion as 2021 came to an end. PCS Staff anticipates that this dynamic service delivery tool will evolve as the needs of the community are made more evident over time. The PCS team's goal is to have all of its new web pages up and running by the end of February 2022.

MARKETING & OUTREACH (CONTINUED)

Social Media

The department currently has 6 Facebook pages. Facebook pages aid in featuring department operations, programs, facilities, and events. These information dissemination outlets are instrumental branding tools the department relies upon daily. They are managed in collaboration with the City's Communications & Marketing Director. The LinkedIn page was primarily created to serve as a recruitment platform and solidify the city and its various departments as competitive and equal in sophistication and organization among other local governments. A 2021 goal is to create and manage a PCS Instagram account in addition to current platforms.



	2021	2020
Likes -	695	497
Followers -	863	582



	2021	2020
Likes -	5,747	5,066
Followers -	6,273	5,405
Check-in -	15,199	



	2021	2020
Likes -	5,121	4,770
Followers -	5,917	5,333
Check-in -	681	561
Instagram -	2,099	300



	2021	2020
Likes -	2,440	2,166
Followers -	2,628	2,270



	2021	2020
Likes -	4,535	4,244
Followers -	4,880	4,473



	2021	2020
Likes -	2,358	103
Followers -	2,455	105

PCS DEPARTMENT BUDGETS

The PCS Department worked closely with the Finance Department throughout the year to complete budgeted improvement projects and remain fiscally responsible while adhering to the Council-approved FY2021 budget. The staff provided services for the Dripping Springs Community as safely as possible and stayed within fiscal parameters set for them. The department is responsible for the oversight of 5 (five) funds within the PCS Budget: General Fund (PCS Administrative Operations, Parks, Founders Pool, Community Services, Events, Seasonal Staff Payroll), Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Event Center, Dripping Springs Farmers Market Fund, Parkland Dedication Fund, and the Ag Facility Fund. The department has access to a Landscaping Fund (when applicable),

*General Fund 2021		
General Fund	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$166,011	\$151,075
Expenditures	\$244,996	\$251,211

Dripping Springs Ranch Park & Event Center Fund 2021		
DSRP	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$449,890	\$446,621
Expenditures	\$447,789	\$397,371

*Farmers Market Fund 2021		
Farmers Market	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$80,116	\$83,214
Expenditures	\$58,281	\$25,895

Parkland Dedication Fund 2021		
Parkland Dedication	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$210,774	\$210,774
Expenditures	\$97,000	\$56,334

Ag Facility Fund 2021		
Ag Facility	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$19,950	\$19,950
Expenditures	\$97,000	\$19,950



NOTABLE MENTIONS & PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

To say that 2021 was a year of transition for the PCS department is an understatement. Nearly the entire team turned over and new positions were added. They say that good things come to those who wait, and the current Parks & Community Services dream team is proof of that.



Caylie Houchin
Community Events Coordinator
(December 2021) - FT



Johnna Krantz
Farmers Market Specialist &
Event Center Coordinator
(October 2021) - FT



Mack Rusick
Programs & Aquatics Manager
(October 2021) - FT



Charlie Reed
Farmers Market Manager
(October 2021) - FT



Emily Nelson
Dripping Springs Ranch Park Manager
(July 2021) - FT



Lily Sellers
Dripping Springs Ranch Park Asst. Manager
(July 2021) - FT



Nick Spillar
DSRP Lead Ranch Hand
(August 2018) - FT



Sheri Kapanka
DSRP Ranch Hand
(March 2016) - FT



Andrew Thompson
DSRP Ranch Hand
(December 2021) - FT



Heather Newman
DSRP Ranch Hand
(October 2021) - FT



Rune Jamieson
DSRP Facility Specialist PT
(September 2021) - PT



Thomas Eubanks
DSRP Customer Service Specialist
(December 2021) - PT

The Dripping Springs Parks & Community Services goal of continual professional development and striving to be best in the industry was met in 2021. The staff achieved this by seeking out industry specific professional organizations, educational opportunities, and certifications. Listed below are professional organizations the department holds memberships in and are professionally associated with. It's also important to note certifications achieved by staff and educational opportunities obtained in 2021.

- DSRP Ranch Hands
Attended Texas Recreation and Parks Society Annual Maintenance Rodeo
- Programs & Aquatics Manager—
Obtained Aquatics Facility Operator certification
- PCS Director & DSRP Manager –
Attended NRPA Annual Conference | (Earned CEU credits to maintain Certified Parks and Recreation Professional certification)
- PCS Director –
Attended Texas Recreation and Parks Society Annual Institute and Expo | (Earned CEU credits to maintain CPRP certification)

2021 MOMENTS IN PARKS





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