City of Denton



City Hall 215 E. McKinney Street Denton, Texas www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

ACM: Christine Taylor

DATE: August 4, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the 2025 NRPA Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Promote Sustainability and the Environment

BACKGROUND

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz is a friendly competition throughout the month of September among participating agencies across the nation that brings communities together to engage in biodiversity discovery and citizen science. The BioBlitz aligns directly with the three core NRPA pillars: Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Equity. BioBlitz events promote Conservation by encouraging participants to explore, document, and better understand local ecosystems. This grassroots environmental engagement not only builds ecological awareness but also supports informed land management and habitat protection. Citizen scientists will be encouraged to utilize the iNaturalist app to record and track their observations of specific flora and fauna in the City of Denton. The data collected can guide local conservation strategies while cultivating a culture of stewardship among residents.

BioBlitzes contribute to Health and Wellness by inviting individuals and families to engage in outdoor physical activity while connecting with nature, supporting both mental and physical well-being. The program also embodies the pillar of Equity by providing inclusive, accessible opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to participate in meaningful outdoor experiences. BioBlitzes may be hosted events or passive, self-directed activities and can occur in urban parks, natural preserves, or in any part of the city. BioBlitz events may bring diverse communities together, bridging gaps in access to nature and environmental education.

Additional Resources:

- iNaturalist website: https://www.inaturalist.org/
- Denton Project: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/parks-for-pollinators-2025-denton-tx
- NRPA website: https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/environmental-resilience/parks4pollinators/

OPTIONS

Support or oppose efforts to pursue participation in the NRPA BioBlitz.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend supporting efforts to participate in the NRPA BioBlitz.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

September 1 through September 30, 2025.

FISCAL INFORMATION

There are no costs attributed to this initiative.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet Exhibit 2- Presentation

Respectfully submitted: Gary Packan Director of Parks and Recreation

Prepared by: Ziad Kharrat Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation