



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 15, 2017

To: Mayor Stokes and City Councilmembers

From: Patrick Foran, Director, 452-5377
Parks and Community Services Department

Subject: National Kids to Parks Day, May 20, 2017

National Kids to Parks Day is a nationwide grassroots movement, established as part of National Park Trust's ongoing efforts to connect youth across the country with nature and encourage them to explore outdoors – especially at parks in their communities. National Kids to Parks Day is held on the third Saturday every May and is responsible for bringing more than 100,000 kids and families to parks. This year, National Kids to Parks Day is celebrated on Saturday, May 20. Nationwide, cities, towns, and councils in 40 states have joined the official celebration by issuing proclamations and offering outdoor programs and activities on that day.

The City of Bellevue, widely known as a 'city in a park' has over 2,700 acres of park and open spaces, 85 miles of trails, 46 playgrounds, and 7 beach parks for public enjoyment. Programs and activities for all ages are scheduled year-round. On May 20, families and youth can participate in the following activities:

Fraser Cabin Heritage Program, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (drop-in), free
Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. Fraser Cabin, built in 1888 and located at Kelsey Creek Farm, comes to life with activities and interpretation.

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Vermicomposting Basics, 2 - 3p.m., free (RSVP: 425-452-2565)
Red Wigglers are often referred to as nature's greatest recyclers. They turn our food scraps into nutrient-rich soil for free. Join us to learn how to make your own worm bin, and get started composting your kitchen scraps using these amazing creatures!

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE

The Food Web: Don't Get Eaten!, 2:30-3:30p.m., free
In the woods, animals are always looking for a meal! Learn about the intricate web of life that exists all around us in this interactive program.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Boulevard SE

Lewis Creek Discovery Backpacks, available daily 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., free

Discovery backpacks contain provide you with all the materials and activities you'll need for launching a fun, self-guided tour.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Boulevard SE

Bellevue Botanical Garden Tours, Saturdays and Sundays, April through October, 2 p.m., free

Join docents for a free drop-in tour of the world-famous gardens. The tour leaves from the Gathering Space and lasts about one hour.

Bellevue Botanical Garden Visitor Center, 12001 Main Street

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Hike, Saturdays, 2 - 3 p.m.

Join a park ranger to explore the natural history of the Lake Hills Greenbelt. Come to discover the local history, search for wildlife signs, and see the beauty that the community gardens offer. Trails are mostly flat and are stroller-friendly.

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street

Zip Line & Challenge Course (pre-registration required: 425-452-7101)

Be wild in the city! Zip with family and friends guided by our skilled staff. The trees are just coming out, the views are grand and the guides are friendly. Soar through the forest on our 6.5 zip lines and walk across two bridges high above Bellevue.

Cost: Adults: \$78; Children 9-17: \$53

South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way

Attachment

Proclamation