



# Champion Great NEIGHBORHOODS

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## Eden Road Park in Southeast Arlington Now Open!



The new park, located at 1860 Mansfield Road, includes a group picnic pavilion with grill, a playground, an open play space, picnic tables and benches. Visitors can also enjoy viewing wildflower meadow areas from the looped walking trail. The park also features a 20-space parking lot.

Construction work on Eden Road Park began in January and was completed in October.

The \$930,800 project was paid for through park development fees. A park dedication is planned for next spring.

## Neighborhood Matching Grant Applications Available Now!

The City of Arlington is pleased to announce another Neighborhood Matching Grant call for projects. This year, \$150,000 is available to fund improvement projects that will beautify and enhance the public spaces in neighborhoods throughout The American Dream City.

Neighborhoods can apply for up to \$25,000 for community projects. Project examples include public art, beautification, landscaping, traffic calming, and neighborhood entrance signs.

Applications for this grant program are due by Thursday, February 15, 2018. The Guidebook and Application are now available online at [www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods/grant](http://www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods/grant).

To apply, a project team leader must attend one of five Information Sessions scheduled throughout the city. The scheduled dates between November and February are listed on the above webpage. Additionally, your neighborhood must also be registered in the City's Neighborhood Network.

Questions about the program can be sent by email to [neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov).



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# Highlights

## 'Meet the Neighbors' Debut Episode Highlights Friendliness of Emerald Park Neighborhood

The rain fell hard and fast just minutes after residents in the quiet Emerald Park neighborhood finished setting the outdoor tables and lawn chairs for the annual National Night Out Party.

Drenched by the sudden downpour, neighbors scooped up pizza boxes, plates of tasty desserts and other snacks and made a run for nearby covered porches on Sapphire Court. James and Mary Thomason, who have lived in Emerald Park for 17 years, didn't hesitate to open their home on October 3 and provide a warm, cozy space for the party to continue.

"I looked out the door and everyone was standing there in the rain and I was like 'We have all this room. Come on everybody and get out of the rain!'" Mary Thomason said.

It's that kind of friendliness and willingness to help that residents there say they love about their South Arlington community. Located off Southwest Green Oaks Boulevard just west of Cooper Street, Emerald Park is made up of 99 homes. In addition to an active Neighborhood Watch group, residents there participate in a dog walk program, collaborate with the City on beautification projects, and take time to welcome new homeowners, celebrate births or comfort those who are sick or grieving.

"It's like an extended family," said Patti Noe, one of Emerald Park's original residents. "We are a support group when we are called upon. That's just being neighborly."



## Arlington Rocks: Join this Hidden Community Art Project!



Have you found a brightly painted rock hidden in a flowerbed or tucked in the corner of a parking lot? Chances are that wasn't a happy accident. You may have found someone's Arlington Rocks project: a hand-painted piece of art made to hide around town, brightening people's day when it's discovered.

Arlington Rocks is part of an informal movement of people who paint rocks, then leave them throughout the community for others to find. Several Facebook groups have sprung up around rock painting, connecting creative minds throughout Arlington. Many people who hide rocks include contact information, such as social media groups, in their designs.

Join the fun with the Arlington Public Library - look out for the next Arlington Rocks painting two-day workshop! Rock-friendly paint, paint-friendly rocks and other supplies are provided. All ages are welcome. You only need your imagination and some creative spark.

Paint your rocks, post them online, and hide them around town. You never know who'll find one!

The City of Arlington is proud to feature Emerald Park in its first edition of 'Meet the Neighbors', a regularly scheduled program that will spotlight neighborhoods large and small across The American Dream City.

Many of the original homeowners still live in the neighborhood, which was built in the mid 1980s and is located near Wimbledon Park. One of those is Noe, who has spent the past 31 years as a volunteer to make Emerald Park a great and safe place to live. Besides an annual crime prevention meeting and a National Night Out party, Noe will email her neighbors with crime prevention tips and encourage them to keep watch for each other.

"We are the eyes and ears of the neighborhood. We are also eyes and ears to help the police. They can't do it alone. We have got to do our part," Noe said. "I tell people, 'The more we are outside, the more we are walking, that is called crime prevention. Thieves

# Updates

## Arlington Named Among 'Best Places to Raise a Family in Texas'

With nearly 100 parks, rich cultural and educational opportunities, and access to well-paying jobs, it's not surprising that The American Dream City is considered as one of the "best places to raise a family in Texas."

The City of Arlington landed the No. 3 spot on Elite Personal Finance's recently published Top 10 list.

Citing Arlington's combination of large and small city amenities, an attractive business environment, and substantial job creation, the ranking was developed using multiple sources, including the FBI 2016 Crime Report, and reviewing cities' educational offerings, cultural scene and recreational areas.

"In addition, the University of Texas Arlington offers amazing education opportunities to young people. The sports scene is fantastic due to the fact that the Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Wings and Texas Rangers play their home games in Arlington."



see that and go 'These neighbors are too active for me. I'm going to go somewhere else.'"

Emerald Park residents also take pride in keeping their neighborhood looking nice. Between 2008 and 2010, the group received a combined \$4,450 in grants from the City of Arlington's Neighborhood Matching Grant Program to make streetscape enhancements. Residents also worked with the City's Urban Design Center to design entryway landscaping and signage for their neighborhood.

Neighborhoods wanting to learn more about City services available for neighborhood projects should register for the Neighborhood Network at [www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods](http://www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods) or send questions to [neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov).

The City's Office of Communication develops programming for MyArlingtonTV. Viewers can find MyArlingtonTV programs on the following cable systems: Spectrum Channel 16 and AT&T U-Verse channel 99, and streaming capabilities at [www.arlington-tx.gov](http://www.arlington-tx.gov).



# By The Numbers:



On September 14, 2017, Arlington residents joined together at the Levitt Pavilion for the 9th annual North Texas Giving Day. Everyone enjoyed a free concert from the Josh Weathers Band while supporting local non-profit organizations. The Arlington Tomorrow Foundation also granted \$50,000 to six local charities.

# 5,645 donors

made a financial contribution to Arlington organizations



# \$1.34 million

raised for Arlington organizations at the 2017 North Texas Giving Day celebration, \$340,000 more than in 2016!

# 112 organizations

in Arlington received financial assistance in 2017



# 18 hours

to raise \$1.34 million dollars for Arlington organizations!