

RECREATION

City invites citizens to enjoy trails in fall

SUBMITTED STORY

Autumn is a wonderful time in North Texas to walk, jog or bike on local trails as temperatures become cooler and the landscape changes to rich autumn hues. The city of Wylie invites residents and visitors to take advantage of its recently completed hike and bike trail, located on the grounds of the municipal complex, and enjoy the sights and sounds of fall.

The 12-foot-wide concrete trail provides a scenic path through meadows and woods, including a 20-foot pedestrian creek bridge, throughout the 320 acres of public space. The trail complements the architecturally award-winning campus with its unique design and integrated public art installations.

The trail was funded by Collin County, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the city of Wylie, and it will be expanded in

2016. Wylie has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Collin County Parks and Open Space Program to add 6,700 linear feet in the complex's East Meadow. This new portion will include a pedestrian bridge, a parking lot accessible from Brown Street, solar trail lighting, litter receptacles, trail benches made of recycled materials and trail signage and markings. The East Meadow addition brings the trail's total length to almost 2 miles.

"This addition to our trail system provides wonderful opportunities for our citizens to reconnect with nature and enjoy the great outdoors, while being only a short distance from their homes," said Mayor Eric Hogue. "Thanks to this additional grant from Collin County, we are able to develop an area that will help citizens of all ages to see the natural beauty of our community — another venue that makes Wylie so unique."



Photos by CRAIG KELLY/City of Wylie

Over the creek and through the woods, hikers, bikers and joggers can enjoy the scenery along municipal complex's trail.

The East Meadow Trail will connect to a 200-home neighborhood to the east of the Municipal Complex, making it possible for residents to walk or bike to the library, recreation center or City Hall without crossing any major

roads. Wylie continues to place value on open space and natural surroundings; the Blackland Prairie Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists is working with the City to restore the meadow north of the complex to native prairie



Hike and bike trail visitors are treated to views of the creek, trees and the building's architecture.

conditions. A soft-surface trail has been built there, and seed harvesting and sowing activity is underway.

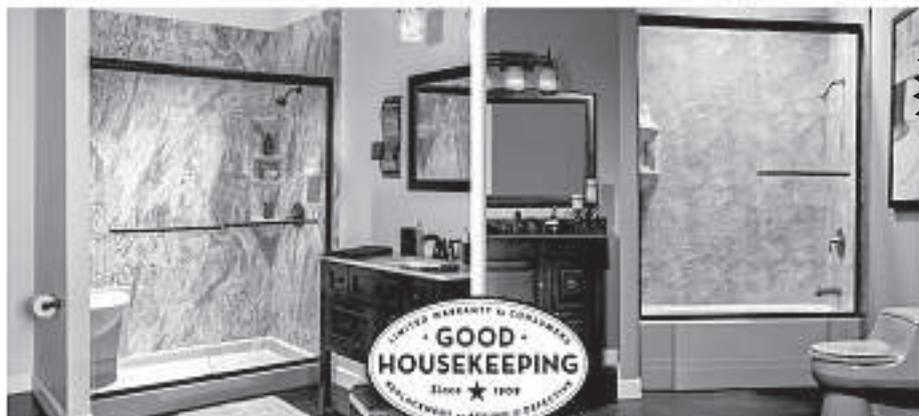
Visit wylietexas.gov/parks for more about the city's parks and recreation opportunities.

Information provided by Judy Truesdell on behalf of the city of Wylie.

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