

Master plan sees a grand future for Fort Worth's largest park

It's time to expand Gateway Park, Fort Worth's largest park and its only metropolitan park.

The design phase runs from July 2024 through September 2025; construction starts in March 2026 and is expected to last about a year.

The City's 2022 bond program provided \$8 million to support the master planning, design and construction of park amenities in Gateway Park. A Tarrant Regional Water District bond program will provide \$6.6 million for a total of \$14.6 million.

Among the master plan features: boardwalk, restrooms and concession building, food



truck parking, great lawn, outdoor market space, scenic overlook, Fort Woof Dog Park expansion, athletic field expansion, basketball courts, tennis and pickleball courts, sand volleyball courts, destination playground (think Dream Park in Trinity Park), splashpad, disc golf expansion, mountain biking hub, skatepark, hill slide and more.

Protect yourself from mosquitoes with these simple, preventative steps

With the active mosquito season well underway, residents can take a few simple actions to protect themselves and their neighbors:

- **Dump standing water** in and around your home by emptying and scrubbing all outdoor containers such as pools, toys, planters, birdbaths and trash containers.
- **Tightly cover water storage containers** such as buckets, cisterns and rain barrels so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
- **Clean out gutters** to avoid standing water. Examine gutters for damage that would cause water to collect.
- **Inspect your yard after every rain event** and empty any containers or areas where water has collected. Also, watch for puddles where condensation gathers from the AC unit.
- **Use screens on windows and doors** and repair holes in the screens.
- **Apply insect repellent** on your body and clothing anytime you are outside.

Long sleeves and pants are suggested. Use insect repellent with one of these active ingredients: DEET, Picaridin or oil of lemon/eucalyptus or other EPA-approved repellent.

Each season, in conjunction with its partners, the City of Fort Worth monitors mosquito activity through trapping, identification and testing for mosquito-transmitted diseases such as West Nile virus.

Over 50 sites have been set up. Surveillance and testing activities started in May and occur weekly through the end of October.

📄 FortWorthTexas.gov/departments/environmental-services/public-health/mosquitoes



Drip, drip, hooray! July is SmartIrrigation Month

Fort Worth Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have teamed up to help residents do all they can to stay out of soggy situations in the heat of the summer.

Feeling like your lawn is burning in the summer sun? It might be time to bid farewell to those thirsty warm-weather grasses. Swap out your burnt-out Bermuda or soggy St. Augustine for native and adaptive Buffalo grass species, and watch your lawn thrive with less water.

But wait, before you start sprinkling away, let's talk *mist* opportunities. Those fancy pressurized irrigation nozzles might seem cool, but they could be wasting more water than they're worth. Enter multi-stream rotary sprinkler heads – not only do they minimize water loss due to evaporation or wind, but they cover more ground with fewer heads. Plus, thanks to their heavier droplets, you might even spend less time watering your lawn.

And what about the eternal question: when should you turn on the hose? Fort Worth residents can sign up for weekly emails or text messages with information on exactly how much water to put down each week. Thanks to a partnership with Tarrant Regional Water District, keeping your lawn lush has never been easier. Fort Worth Water customers can sign up for this personalized Weekly Watering Advice at WaterIsAwesome.com/weekly-watering-advice.

📄 epa.gov/watersense/landscaping-tips



WORTH KNOWING



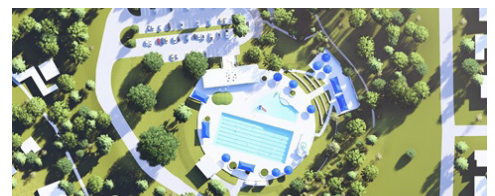
Fort Worth has named the **eastern bluebird** as its official city bird. The decision came after collaboration between Fort Worth ISD students and community members. The eastern bluebird reflects the spirit of the city while also exhibiting traits of Texan resilience and friendliness.



To explore opportunities for **urban rail** as an innovative transportation solution in Fort Worth, Mayor Mattie Parker launched the Mayor's Urban Rail Committee Supporting Economic Development & Tourism in partnership with Trinity Metro. Committee members are charged with three main tasks:

- Determine if there is a likelihood to develop a fixed rail system designed to move people along the entertainment districts within Fort Worth based on potential ridership, costs and funding.
- Explore financial support and mechanisms of construction and operations.
- Determine potential legislative needs and priorities as it relates to economic development and tourism rail projects.

WORTH GOING



The rebuilt **Forest Park Pool** is open for the summer and includes eight 50-meter lanes, a new bathhouse, leisure pool and play features. Forest Park Pool opened on June 16, 1922, and underwent several renovations over the decades. In 2010, the pool closed because of structural issues. The pool reopened to the public in 2013 following \$830,000 in repairs.

📄 FortWorthTexas.gov/departments/parks/services/pools-and-aquatics/forest-park-pool