

INSIDE WILLOW FORK DRAINAGE DISTRICT



*Enhancing Our Community
through Drainage, Parks & Trails*

April 2025

Celebrating 40 Years of WFDD



Created by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in **1985**, Willow Fork Drainage District has provided critical drainage infrastructure for 40 years, facilitating master-planned community development that has become home to more than 30,000 residents. Planning and design of its diversion channel, which can hold 9,370 cubic feet per second, makes it possible to move the equivalent of one football field covered with 10 feet of water per minute downstream! This enabled the growth of Cinco Ranch, Kelliwood, Canyon Gate, Falcon Ranch, and Parkway Oaks, which today are part of the 5,700 acres of drainage infrastructure and

recreational facilities overseen by WFDD.

From **1985 to 2010**, WFDD's management by district residents who serve as directors was key to successful development and growth. Directors oversee the financing and acquisition of drainage facilities through the issuance of bonds, engage expert consultants to operate, manage, maintain, and repair facilities to ensure proper drainage capacity, and coordinate with 13 underlying Municipal Utility Districts that provide water to homes and businesses.

In **2010**, WFDD presented residents with a vision to connect unfinished trails, improve aging school playgrounds and parks, and create transformative outdoor community spaces. Voters approved WFDD's Parks Master Plan in **2011**, which benefitted 10 schools, built three community parks, and added 15 miles of trails to improve connectivity across the district. When Hurricane Harvey pummeled the area in **2017**, WFDD was quick to respond with reserves on hand to rebuild and help district residents get back on their feet.

"Having lived in Cinco Ranch for nearly 25 years, I have witnessed the incredible growth, diversity and resiliency of the people I call neighbors," said Alec Bray, who has served as a director since 2022. "I am honored to continue the legacy of reinvesting in our community and am excited about new projects to improve its vibrancy and safety, including collaborative efforts to construct bridges and underpasses and add signage and signaling at designated mid-block crossings that improve schools and trail access and pedestrian and driver safety."

Visit [WFDD's website](#) to learn more about the district, its operations, amenities, events, as well as access educational and emergency resources.

[View 2025 WFDD Map](#)

Nature Comes Alive at Willow Fork Park!





Photos by Christa Denning

From water conservation to gardening to creature features, Willow Fork Park offers a variety of free, nature-based programs year-round that appeal to all ages. Monthly programs start at 9 a.m. unless noted, and for the remainder of 2025 include:

May 17 - Willow Fork Park Gardens Open House

June 21 - Nature Scavenger Hunt presented by the Texas Master Naturalist Coastal Prairie Chapter

July 12 - Adaptation of the American Alligator by Brazos Bend State Park Naturalist

August 9 - Owls in the Houston Area sponsored by Wild Bird Adventures

Sept. 20 - Trees of Ft. Bend Co. and Park Tree Walk with Ft. Bend County Master Gardeners

Oct. 4 - Gardening for Children class by Ft. Bend County Master Gardeners

Oct. TBD - KISD High School Plein Air Painting (8-11 a.m.)

Nov. 1 - Nature Photography Walk lead by local nature photographer Christa Denning, (8-9:30 a.m.)

Nov. 8 - Caterpillar Races and Petting Zoo/Nature Apps Education by the Texas Master Naturalist Coastal Prairie Chapter

Follow [Willow Fork Park's Facebook page](#) for the latest, including schedule additions or changes.

[Willow Fork Park's Facebook Page](#)

WFDD Urges Homeowners to Have Flood Insurance

Willow Fork Drainage District Wants You to Know...




Flood Insurance Today Protects What You've Built for Tomorrow

Flooding is the most common and most destructive natural disaster in the United States. In the past 20 years, 99% of U.S. counties have experienced a flood at some point. Living on the Texas Gulf Coast, hurricane-related flooding is top of mind, but overlooking the risks from heavy rains that contribute to flash flooding and overflowing bayous can also be costly.

Being prepared year-round with flood insurance ensures you'll be protected in the event of flood damage, whether it's from an inch of water or a major hurricane event. Rebuilding after a flood is difficult—flood insurance can be the difference between recovery and financial devastation.

Most homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Only flood insurance helps fill the gap. A National Flood Insurance Policy (NFIP) provides up to \$250,000 for your home and up to \$100,000 for personal belongings.

Don't let your hard work be washed away. renew or buy flood insurance today! NFIP policies have a 30-day waiting period before going into effect. Visit [FloodSmart.gov](#) or call 800-427-4661 to learn more.

Where it rains, it can flood. No home is completely safe from a flood event, and for many property owners, they do not find out until it's too late that homeowners insurance does not cover flooding. Preparing for hurricane-related storms is an annual occurrence when living on the Texas Gulf Coast, but flooding can happen anywhere, anytime, from year-round flash flood events to construction that impedes or diverts drainage to water main breakages. WFDD annually sends a postcard reminding homeowners of the importance of purchasing or renewing flood insurance, even if not required, as nearly one-third of National Flood Insurance Policy (NFIP) claims come from outside high-risk flood areas. Flood insurance can be the difference between recovery and financial devastation, providing up to \$250,000 for your home and up to \$100,000 for personal belongings, so don't delay, NFIP policies have a 30-day waiting period before going into effect. Visit [FloodSmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) or call 800-427-4661 to learn more.

WFDD 2025 Postcard

If you find this information helpful, please forward to your neighbors.

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