

# Hoblitzelle Pond Restoration - *Saving the Pond*

## The City of Plano, Parks & Recreation Department

### Questions & Answers

1. *What are you doing with the pond?*
2. *Why are you doing the restoration?*
3. *What if you don't restore the pond?*
4. *Where is the silt going?*
5. *How long will it take and can the park still be used?*
6. *Will the work harm wildlife or cause pollution?*
7. *What if the park floods during this work?*

#### **1. What are you doing with the pond?**

*The Parks & Recreation Department has hired a contractor to remove silt, mud, and debris that has accumulated in the bottom of the pond. The sediment will be excavated by hydraulic excavation equipment, dewatered in a dewatering bag, loaded onto dump trucks, and transported to a site to receive the material. Water filtered by the dewatering bag will be returned to the pond. Trash and debris will be disposed of in a landfill. Areas damaged by trucks and equipment will be restored to their original condition with high-quality bermuda grass.*

#### **2. Why are you doing the restoration?**

*Silt, mud, and debris have accumulated as stormwater carries material into the pond from locations upstream. We are removing the accumulated material to improve water quality and the appearance of the pond.*

#### **3. What if you don't restore the pond?**

*The pond will continue to fill with material, become unsuitable for most aquatic life, and will eventually fill in to become a mudflat. The restoration will return the pond to its original depth.*

#### **4. Where is the silt going?**

*The silt will be tested for metals and transported to an appropriate site as determined by the contractor.*

#### **5. How long will it take and can the park still be used?**

*The pond restoration is expected to be complete in 35 days. The silt collected in the dewatering bag will require an additional 30-60 days to dewater, depending on weather conditions.*

*The park will remain open and all normal park uses will be permitted during construction. However, specific areas adjacent to the pond edge and the construction equipment staging area will have safety fencing to limit access. The park trail will be open throughout the restoration except for temporary localized closures. These closures are to ensure the safety of park users. **BE SURE TO LOOK FOR CLOSED AREAS AND AVOID THEM.***

#### **6. Will the work harm wildlife or cause pollution?**

*No. The hydraulic excavation method allows time for fish, turtles, and shellfish to avoid the area where work is occurring. Water filtered by the dewatering bags will be returned to the pond to maintain a safe water level for aquatic life.*

*The sediment will be contained and will not be returned to the pond or discharged to waterways. Rules and regulations established by the City of Plano, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and US Army Corps of Engineers will be followed for the duration of the project.*

#### **7. What if the park floods during this work?**

*The hydraulic excavation work will not be affected by flooding except that additional time may be required for dewatering.*

### **Contact for further questions:**

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**<http://www.plano.gov/1570/Plano-Park-Projects-Plans>**