



ECO WARRIORS

WINTER 2025

# Greening Dallas Parks

Dallas Park & Recreation  
Bringing Communities Together

## Dallas Clean and Green Makes Protecting Our Parks A Creative Challenge

Dallas Park and Recreation's Dallas Clean and Green Initiative engaged youth from Dallas recreation centers and Out of School Time programs in activities to reduce litter in public parks. During October, centers earned points by completing challenge tasks like picking up litter, sharing anti-littering messages, and creating educational content. Challenges included litter pick up in parks, capturing photos of those using reuseable water bottles, recording anti-litter videos, and creating educational posters with Parks are Our Future messaging. Congratulations to the recreation centers with the most points: **Samuell Grand, Park in the Woods, Martin Luther King Jr., Marcus and Timberglen.**

**DALLAS CLEAN AND GREEN CHALLENGE**  
OST EDITION

- Pick up trash at park and submit reverse litter log to Environmental Division (min. 4 kids participating) +100 pts each day // +50 pts for separating trash & recycling
- Fill up a bag of litter from the park +100 pts per FULL small trash bag
- Picture of a min. 5 kids with their reusable water bottles +200 pts (max. 5 entries)
- Record a 30 second anti-litter education video (written permission from parents) +250 pts
- Produce a social media clip on anti-littering +500 pts
- Staff does a FUN education presentation on Leave No Trace +500 pts
- Create a single poster to educate members on anti-littering and display it in hallway +750 pts
- Before and After Shot: Kids sad with litter then happy after picking up litter +1,000 pts
- Group of kids put on a skit for OST focused on "Parks are Our Future" +4,000 pts
- OST hosts a family park clean-up event +10,000 pts



*Keep Our Place Clean!*

*Please, Don't Litter*

Lorem ipsum



LET ME BE FRANK

NO LITTERING

W.B. JANTI-LITTER!

WHEN I SEE TRASH, I GET SOCKED!

TRASH

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE TRASH ON THE E

# Making Construction Projects Eco-friendly and Energy-efficient Every Step of the Way!

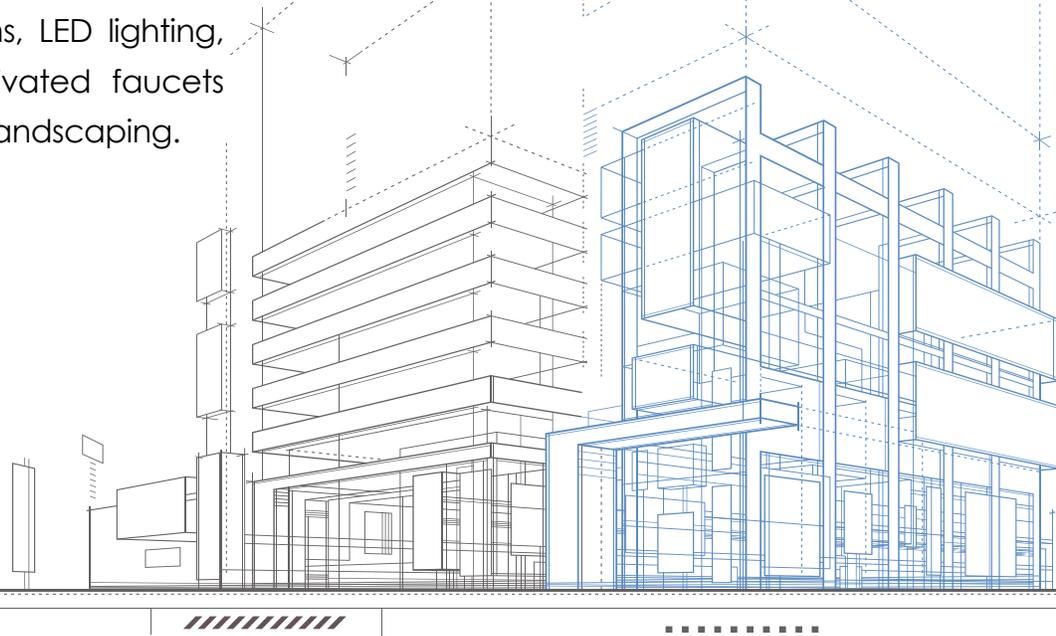
Dallas voters last year approved \$1.25 billion bond program with \$345 million allocated to improving parks and recreational facilities. As Dallas Park and Recreation plans new construction and renovation projects, incorporating sustainability to ensure buildings are energy-efficient and climate resilient is top priority.

The department is committed to minimizing the environmental impact of buildings throughout their lifecycles. This includes the construction phase, ongoing operations within and around the building, and waste management once the building reaches the end of its useful life. This dedication to environmental protection supports Dallas' Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan.

The bond funding will provide new recreation centers at **White Rock Hills** and **Exall** parks. Eco-friendly renovations at **Arlington Park, Kiest, Reverchon, Eloise Lundy, J.C. Phelps, Tommie Allen,** and **Arcadia** recreation centers include new heating and cooling systems, LED lighting, motion sensor lights, motion-activated faucets and toilets, and drought-resistant landscaping.

## Blueprints for Sustainable Buildings

When Dallas Park and Recreation designs and builds facilities, every step of the build process protects the environment. Guiding its architects, engineers and construction teams is an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) - a document that explains the environmental impact of building materials like concrete, steel, brick, roofing, flooring, insulation, and windows throughout their lifecycle. Created by product manufacturers, EPDs address everything from extracting raw materials to making, transporting, installing, maintaining, and recycling the materials. With EPDs, project managers can compare the environmental impact of different materials, enabling them to choose the most sustainable options during the design and construction phases.





## Powering A Greener Future

The City of Dallas launched a new green initiative at Kiest Softball Complex, replacing traditional gas-powered landscaping equipment with eco-friendly electric alternatives. The sustainable equipment includes six robotic mowers, two zero-turn mowers, robotic line stripper, line trimmers, leaf blowers, and edgers.

With an investment of approximately \$250,000, Dallas Park and Recreation's transition to quieter, zero-emission equipment not only makes Kiest Softball Complex greener, but it also actively supports the city's Comprehensive Environmental Climate Action Plan (CECAP), created in 2020 to steer Dallas toward greater sustainability. Watch here to see how Dallas is going green!

### Did You Know?

A robotic electric mower can mow an acre in 2-5 hours, depending on equipment settings. Since these mowers are self-regulated, they can mow independently thus allowing staff to work on other tasks.



## Together Small Acts Can Make a Big Difference

The City of Dallas Youth Sports program wants athletes and spectators to bring refillable water bottles to practices and games! When teams and families bring reusable bottles, waste in parks and landfills is reduced and fewer bottles are left on the ground, saving staff time from picking up after-game litter.

Small actions make big differences in creating a cleaner, greener future.

