



# Piedmont Parks & Recreation News

[piedmontparksandrec.com](http://piedmontparksandrec.com)

July 2013

## *Piedmont's 1st Annual Yard & Garden Tour*

On July 13, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, several homes in Piedmont will participate in the yard and garden tour sponsored by the Piedmont Historical Society and Piedmont Parks & Recreation.

A map of participating homes will be available online at [www.piedmonthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.piedmonthistoricalsociety.org). The map and tickets will also be available at the Historical Museum, 101 Monroe NW, on the day of the tour from 9:00 until 2:00 pm.

Tickets are just \$5 for students and adults, and can be purchased in advance at Bill's Barber Shop, City Stop, F&M Bank, Piedmont Glass, Piedmont United Methodist Church, Piedmont Pharmacy, Stone's Hardware, or at the museum. Tickets can also be purchased at any home on the tour during the event.

Door prize drawings will take place at each home on the tour.

If you need some inspiration and ideas for your yard and garden, Piedmont's first annual yard and garden tour is the place to be on Saturday, July 13th!



## **Piedmont Freedom Fest**

**5:00 pm**

games, food and other activities at Piedmont Elementary

**6:30 pm**

free-style motocross stunt performance just south of F&M Bank

**7:00 pm**

parade along Piedmont Road

**dusk**

fireworks display across from Piedmont Elementary

Booth space and parade entries are free. Applications and entry forms are available at F&M Bank.

**Q:** What have more than 65 Piedmont residents and several public places done in our community that you, too, can do? (Answer on page 2)

## Certify Your Backyard as a Wildlife Habitat

(more than 65 Piedmont residents already have!)



With the certification of just a few more backyards (or farms, or businesses), Piedmont will qualify as a Wildlife Habitat Community - the first community in Oklahoma to be designated as such!

Based on our population, Piedmont is required to have 325 points to be certified, with 150 of those points from the certification of residential yards at 1 point each (or farms and businesses at 3 points each), and 175 points from other activities. By the end of July, we will have exceeded the required 175 points from other activities, but we need 28 more homes, farms and businesses to reach the minimum 150 points from certified properties.

### What does it take to certify your property?

- 1 source of water - a birdbath, shallow dish, creek, seasonal pool, water garden, pond, or puddling area will do
- 3 sources of food - any combination of foliage & twigs, plants that produce sap, pollen, nectar, seeds, berries, nuts or fruit, bird, squirrel, butterfly or hummingbird feeders
- 3 sources of cover / places to raise young - mature trees, a dead or fallen tree, dense shrubs or thicket, evergreens, meadow/prairie, ground cover, brush/leaf litter, rock pile/wall, burrow, nesting or roosting box, pond or water garden, wetland, host plants for caterpillars

**What does it cost?** Maybe nothing! There are a few remaining (free!) pre-paid applications that can be applied for at <http://piedmontparksandrec.com/onlineapp.html>. With habitat certification you'll receive a certificate suitable for framing, a subscription to *National Wildlife* magazine (normally \$20), and the e-newsletter *Wildlife Online*.

If you don't get one of the free pre-paid applications, it will cost you \$20, but *National Wildlife* subscriptions are \$20, so you are essentially paying for the subscription, and getting certification free. If necessary, you can find a link to the regular NWF application form online at <http://piedmontparksandrec.com/habitat.html>. Certification does not expire.

For more information and resources about Piedmont's wildlife habitat project, go to:  
<http://piedmontparksandrec.com/habitat.html>

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Piedmont Parks and Rec



## July is Parks & Recreation Month

The US House of Representatives and communities across America, including the City of Piedmont, have proclaimed July as Parks & Recreation Month, recognizing that parks and recreation are fundamental to the well-being of our community because they:

- are instrumental in establishing and maintaining quality of life
- promote physical, mental and emotional health, and help prevent chronic disease
- contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of communities through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, attraction and retention of businesses, and reduction of crime
- improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and provide habitat for wildlife
- ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature

## 50 Outdoor Activities for Busy Families

\* blow bubbles \* have a picnic in the yard \* pitch a tent in the backyard \* take a bike ride \* take a walk after a meal and notice/talk about the signs of the season \* plant a vegetable, flower or bulb garden \* find a different playground \* play in the sprinkler (and water the flowers) \* have a birthday party at the park \* use sidewalk chalk to make a maze, or draw lines and have a relay or bike race \* fly a kite \* make a spot where kids can dig \* keep a pair of binoculars and a magnifying glass by the door \* have a hot cocoa outside \* fill a bird feeder to watch when you have breakfast \* ride the bus or train somewhere \* take coloring book/paper and crayons, or read a book outside in the grass \* join a sports team \* jump rope \* have a sack or relay race \* kick a ball or play catch \* keep an extra set of clothes, shoes, and water in the car for spontaneous hikes (or a blanket for spontaneous picnics) \* look at cloud shapes \* play "I spy" \* climb a tree \* climb some rocks \* play Follow the Leader \* play outside before school \* collect sticks, leaves, seeds, or nuts and build something make-believe \* draw a letter or shape on the other person's back and guess what it is \* sit on the stoop: what do you see and hear? \* collect leaves \* look for bugs \* build a temporary indoor or outdoor fort with what you have \* have a play-date at the playground \* find worms and let them race \* race sticks in a stream \* roll down hill \* see how quiet you can be and look and listen for animals or signs of them (nests, tracks, etc) \* play tag \* play hide & seek \* play "rock, paper, scissors" or "thumb war" \* pick weeds and see who picked the most \* collect seeds from fruit, vegetables, and flowers \* walk in the rain; splash in the puddles \* look in puddles and creeks \* find a new walking path together \* talk about what each of you likes about being outside \* talk about each of your ideas for spending time outside together \* plan your next outdoor activity with your kids \*

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Want more ideas for getting your kids or your entire family outside? Check out Rebecca's book, *15 Minutes Outside: 365 Ways to Get Out of the House and Connect with Your Kids*, or go to her blog at [www.rebeccaplants.com/wordpress](http://www.rebeccaplants.com/wordpress).

### 365 Days of Crafts

If the lazy days of summer already have you or your kids bored and looking for something more to do, check out <http://365daysofcrafts.com> for something to help fill the time.



### Visual Preference Survey

The City of Piedmont and the Planning Commission would like you to take the Visual Preference Survey found on the City's homepage at [www.piedmont-ok.gov](http://www.piedmont-ok.gov). Your responses will help guide future decisions as our community grows.

# July Community Calendar

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** (10:00 am) - Preschool Story Time at the library for ages 2 and up, free, 373-9018
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** (noon-6:00 pm) - Come & Go Crafts at the library for all ages, free, 373-9018
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31** (noon) - Senior Adults lunch and fellowship at Methodist church, \$3, for reservations call 373-2905
- 4** - Freedom Fest Celebration - food & games at 5:00 pm, motocross performance at 6:30 pm, parade at 7:00 pm, fireworks at dusk at Piedmont Elementary, 373-1600
- 5, 12, 19, 26** (10:00 am) - Mother Goose on the Loose at the library for ages 2 & up, free, 373-9018
- 6** (9:00-11:00 am) - Piedmont Recycling at the former co-op, 373-2905
- 6, 13, 20, 27** (10:00-2:00 pm) - Historical Society Museum is open, free, garden tour tickets & map available for \$5, 823-1345
- 8, 15, 22, 29** (6:30 pm) - Acting Class for adults & teens ages 16 & up, at the library, learn basic acting techniques, free, 406-1984
- 9** (6:30 pm) - CC Tuff Riders 4-H horseplay program at Rubley's arena (524 Ash Rd NW), free, 373-1387
- 10** (10:00 am) - Preschool Music and Movement for ages 2-5, at the library, free, 373-9018
- 10, 17, 24, 31** (10:00-noon) - Library Quilters at the library, free, 373-1662
- 11** (7:00 am) - Legislative Breakfast at city hall, speaker is Janet Barresi of OK Dept of Education on education reform in Oklahoma, updates by other elected officials, free, 373-2234
- 11, 18, 25** (10:00 am) - Zumba! at the library for all ages, \$3, 373-9018
- 11** (noon) - Chamber of Commerce luncheon at city hall, Rob Gragg will speak on Oklahoma Dept of Commerce services and community economic development, free, optional lunch is \$8, 373-2234
- 11, 18, 25** (4:00-6:00 pm) - Teen Craft Event at the library for 5th grade & up, free, 373-9018
- 11** (6:30 pm) - YA Read, Don't YA? book club for ages 16 & up, at the library, book: *The 5th Wave*, free, 373-9018
- 12, 26** (6:00-9:00 pm) - Stampin' Up class at city hall, \$9, bring scissors & double-sided tape, RSVP 535-8849
- 13** (10:00-4:00 pm) - Yard & Garden Show sponsored by the Historical Society and Parks & Rec, door prizes, \$5 for students & adults, tickets available at City Stop and other locations, tickets & map available at Museum from 9-2:00 on day of show, 373-2582
- 13** (7:00 pm, 6:00 pm books open) - Oklahoma Arabian Horse Club All Breed Open Horse Show at Round-Up Club Arena, entry fees \$5 / class, \$10 / championship, free to watch, 826-4987
- 18** (noon) - Readers Who Lunch adult book club at the library, book: *The Hot Flash Club*, free, 373-9018
- 20** (6:00 pm, 4:45 pm exhibitions) - Playday for all ages at Round-Up Club Arena, fees vary by event, free to watch, 445-9245
- 25** (6:30 pm) - Ladies' Night at the library, for adults, free, 373-9018

An expanded version of the calendar is online at [PiedmontParksAndRec.com](http://PiedmontParksAndRec.com)  
A Piedmont map of community events is online at [PiedmontParksAndRec.com/map.pdf](http://PiedmontParksAndRec.com/map.pdf)