



# The FOOP SCOOP

a publication of FRIENDS OF OAKHURST PARK-FOOP, a 501(c)3 non-profit service organization

Dedicated to maintain, protect, and preserve Oakhurst Park

Spring & Summer 2022



Oakhurst Park, Fort Worth, Texas, established circa 1920

Friends of Oakhurst Park (FOOP), established October 14, 2015

Hi Neighbors !!!

**Thank You** for your support of FRIENDS OF OAKHURST PARK and its mission to *maintain, protect, and preserve Oakhurst Park in perpetuity.*



Sharon Kutilek-Buse, President  
Friends of Oakhurst Park (FOOP)

As the COVID pandemic stretched from 2020 through 2021 and into 2022, it taught us how important Oakhurst Park is to the quality of life in our neighborhood. So **'THANK YOU FOOP Donors!'** for donating to care for, improve, and irrigate Oakhurst Park so it remains the heart of our neighborhood and a beautiful, vibrant greenspace for us to play, find respite, enjoy food trucks, and participate in neighborhood activities.

FOOP celebrated the end of 2021 and what we thought would be the end COVID (that's before all the Omicron variants) with the FOOP Neighborhood Holiday Party (see pg.2). Setting a new trend for our fellow organizations to follow, FOOP held it's soiree at Race Street business *Neutral Ground Brewery*. Our new members and long-timers got together on Race Steet to meet each other and exchange stories about Oakhurst Park and the neighborhood. An awesome Power-Point presentation highlighted FOOP's accomplishments and projects from it's founding in 2015 through the present day. The improvements FOOP has made to Oakhurst Park in six short years have been mind blowing!

We spent 2021 anticipating the Park Department's design of the new playground. As with all planning and design projects, there have been many delays and setbacks, but the City's unveiling of the final playground design should be coming soon.

Moving forward, as we prepare for the construction phase of the playground replacement project, we ask everyone to please pack your patience and remember that all good things take time. The planned completion date, with no delays, is now projected to be SPRING 2023. But as with all projects the unforeseen is inevitable.

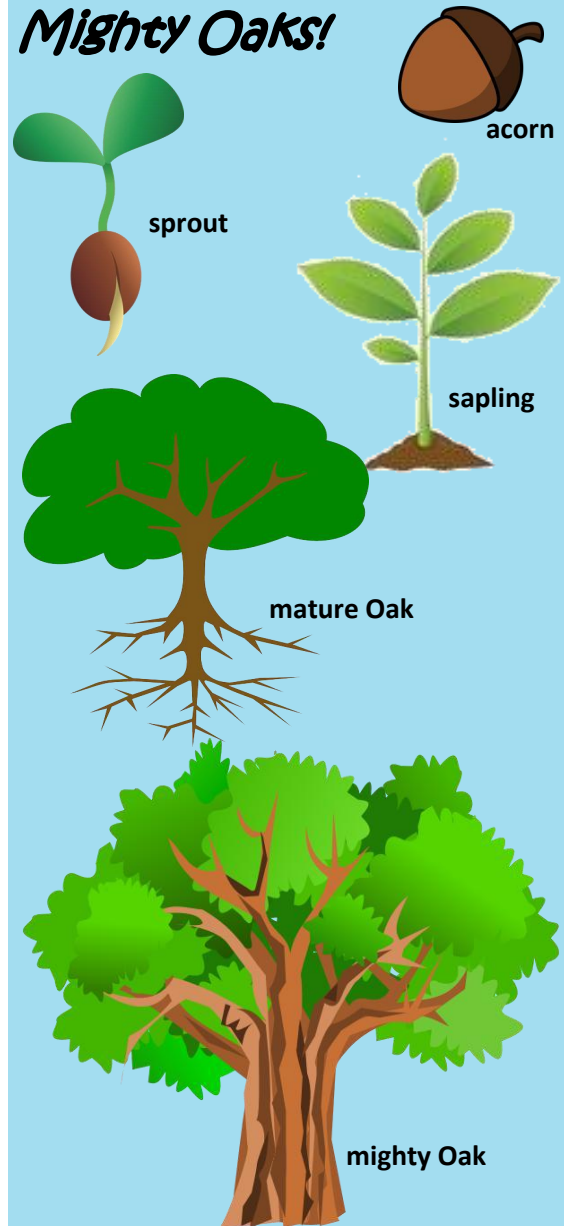
FORT WORTH **Oakhurst Park—2021-2022 Playground Replacement Choice**  
FRIENDS OF OAKHURST PARK FOOP Community Partner: FRIENDS OF OAKHURST PARK (FOOP)



We thank the FW Park Department staff, Project Manager, Patrick Vicnair, and Park Director Richard Zavala for their hard work and dedication to improving Oakhurst Park. We are especially grateful to Mario Rocha and his staff for their accessibility and responsiveness.



## Looking for: *Acorns, Sprouts, Saplings, Mature Oaks, and Mighty Oaks!*



### Is there one at your house????

(see pg. 6 for more of the scoop)

# The FOOP 2021 HOLIDAY PARTY WAS A BLAST !!!



# 2022 'Spruce Up Oakhurst Park' - Cowtown Cleanup

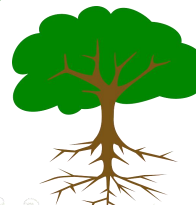
Hard Work  
—Big Fun ...

FOOP'S ANNUAL  
**'Spruce Up'**  
**OAKHURST PARK**  
SATURDAY, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10AM



Join FOOP  
[www.friendsofoakhurstpark.org](http://www.friendsofoakhurstpark.org)

Help Keep Oakhurst Park  
"Shady"





# 2022 'Nerf Water Battle' In Oakhurst Park

**Wet...  
Wild...  
& One for the  
Record Books**



# Maintaining Oakhurst Park...

*It's Hot...*

*It's Hard...*

*&*

*It's Expensive!*



## Loud Shout-Out

FOOP gives a "loud" shout-out to Oakhurst resident **Victor Sanchez** who without hesitation pitched in daily for weeks to pull hoses and move sprinklers to hand-water flowers in 100+ degree heat when the irrigation system was down. Victor kept continued to help even after the new hoses and sprinklers were stolen. Thanks Victor!



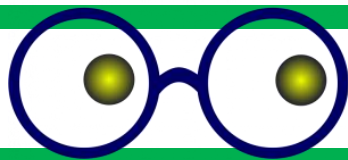
The task of maintaining Oakhurst Park is a constant and continuous labor of love by those of us who love the park including many neighbors, FOOP donors & Board, and Mark Buse. Even so, it is still hot, hard, time-consuming work — and very expensive. Countless hours are spent each month mowing & edging turf; watering trees and flowers; as well as repairing lines and replacing parts to the 50+ year old irrigation system. In fact it seems we barely get one area repaired before another area malfunctions or a head is kicked over, broken, or stolen.

This summer has been especially brutal! The irrigation system has been down more often than not — with broken heads, lines, and valves. Different stations were out-of-order during the last part of June and the first part of July. Some stations gushing water through broken lines — while at other times not delivering any water at all! As a result, the park lost one of the new Oak trees we planted two years ago during FOOP's 'Reforest Oakhurst Park' project. We also lost a significant amount of grass but the damage could have been much worse without the oversight and care of our neighborhood 501(c)3 service organization, **Friends of Oakhurst Park-FOOP**. FOOP's donor members diligently advocate for the park at every opportunity.

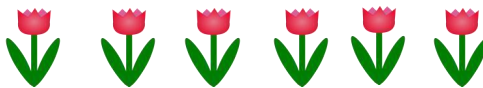


*Life-time Oakhurst resident, seventy-six year old Mark Buse working in Oakhurst Park in 109 degree temperatures!*

Oakhurst residents owe a world of gratitude to yourselves and your neighbor if you are part of the small but extraordinary group of neighbors who support and donate to **FOOP**! Your donation to FOOP provides our kiddos a place to play, the neighborhood association a place to stage its events, and because of you the grass is green, the trees are growing, and the flowers are blooming in Oakhurst Park! Thanks! You are the Best!!!



*Keep a look out! A new Oakhurst Park playground project update is coming soon!*



### Friends of Oakhurst Park—2022 Officers and Board of Directors

President: Sharon Kutilek-Buse Vice President: Johnathan Zimmerer; Secretary: Lynda Thomas Treasurer: Molly Bayer  
Directors: Robin Barron, Josef Kutilek, Jenifer Medkieffer, James Milburn, Julia Marut, Casey Patterson,  
Lauren Kennedy-Smith  
Webmaster: Erin Richardson



# Take an "Active Role" in Caring for Oakhurst Park...Become a Member of FOOP ... Join a Committee ...

DID YOU KNOW... the City of Fort Worth does not irrigate neighborhood parks and only mows them once every 21 days? This was not always the case in fact, for many years the City absorbed all the irrigation costs and maintenance, then...*the no irrigation policy for neighborhood parks was adopted.* Fortunately for us, upon the policy's adoption, the City, through oversight or kindness continued to irrigate Oakhurst Park until 2015. At that time, the controllers broke and the entire irrigation system failed causing the grass and most of the vegetation to die, including many trees. As a result of this disaster the Buse family adopted Oakhurst Park and a few neighbors came together offering support and Friends of Oakhurst Park-FOOP, a 501(c)3 non-profit service organization was founded with the sole purpose of caring for Oakhurst Park.

Even though we receive no outside funding from our neighborhood association or the City, as a 501(c)3 service organization FOOP proudly maintains the park for ONA social events, meeting votes, and other activities. Since its founding in 2015, FOOP members have spent tens of thousands of dollars improving and maintaining Oakhurst Park. FOOP members have replaced grass, planted crepe Myrtles, reforested the park with Oak trees, added irrigation to the park sign planting bed, constantly repaired the 50+ year old irrigation system, partnered with the City to install ADA/pet friendly drinking fountains, and secured new playground equipment scheduled for installation Fall of 2022. FOOP has completed so many projects for the benefit of the park they are too numerous to list so visit our website at <http://www.friendsofoakhurstpark.org> to see FOOP's accomplishments!

FOOP needs EVERYONE to engage and be part of this amazing organization! So get your kids involved! Show them the rewards of community services! FOOP does not engage in politics or neighborhood disputes — we simply raise money to maintain Oakhurst Park and complete projects that improve and maintain your property values and increase the beauty, safety and security of our neighborhood.

**Most folks just use Oakhurst Park and never help take care of it! Don't be 'Most Folks' — Join FOOP and be part of something meaningful!**



**FOOP =  
Community Service  
At Its Best !!!**



## Be Part of Something Meaningful... Join FOOP today!

Oakhurst Park's needs are constant and continuous care. Help FOOP keep the grass green, the trees growing, and the flowers blooming! Become an Acorn, Sprout, Sapling, Mature Oak, or a Mighty Oak today!

**Become a "Friend" of FOOP today!**

[http://  
www.friendsofoakhurstpark.org](http://www.friendsofoakhurstpark.org)

Follow us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/  
FriendsofOakhurstPark/](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsofOakhurstPark/)



FRIENDS OF OAKHURST PARK (FOOP) is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit service organization whose mission is to maintain, protect, and preserve Oakhurst Park in perpetuity. Your donations are tax-deductible.



**MAINTAIN - PROTECT - PRESERVE**

**Donate once and/or be a "perennial!"**

- Acorn \$5/month
- Sprout \$10/month
- Sapling \$20/month
- Mature Oak \$30/month
- Mighty Oak \$50/month

