



ARE THE FIELDS OPEN FOR PRACTICE?

This time of the year that is the most often asked question at the Weston Community Center and possibly the most often asked question citywide. As an example, over the past four weeks the Weston Regional Park has received over five inches of rain with Tequesta Trace Park not far behind. For many residents who work out of the area that can be hard to comprehend as it might have been sunny where they work while it was storming here at home. In fact, it is actually not uncommon for it to be sunny on Weston Road and pouring on the fields at Regional Park.

To understand why fields have to be closed there are several factors that are taken into account:



- **The three athletic parks were built at different times and with different construction methods.** The three athletic parks are the Weston Regional Park, Tequesta Trace Park and Vista Park. Vista Park, the newest of the three parks, was built with lateral drainage under the fields which makes them more resilient to significant rainfall. The water is absorbed as opposed to running off which happens at the other parks.
- **Safety of participants is paramount.** A wet or saturated field will lead to loose footing that can bring about a number of sport injuries that are easily avoided.
- **Each field must withstand an entire season of activity.** While most of the users are worried about getting in one night of practice or their weekly game, the Parks Department must make sure the fields are safe throughout the season. If the fields are damaged in September or October, that has a lasting impact through November and December and even into the spring season. The fields get very little rest from August to June.

[Click on page for full article](#)



“How much rain has to fall in order for the fields to be closed?”



Unfortunately, it is not a simple calculation with a set number. The decision will vary depending on how much rainfall we have had in the days and weeks leading up to a moment in time and it will even vary depending on the time of day the rain comes. An inch of rain at 9:00 in the morning may be irrelevant if the sun comes out, stays out, and dries the fields. An inch of rain at 4:30 pm will likely close the fields for that night.

The process used to determine if the fields should be closed or not is a professional judgment call. The Director of Parks and Recreation or his designated staff will walk each of the fields to see firsthand whether they will be ready for practice or games. Staff will always err on the conservative side. The reason our fields are highly regarded not only in South Florida but across the state is because we are very protective of them.

“So if Vista is so great, why not provide the same drainage at the other parks?”

The City has taken steps to make improvements on some fields. Unfortunately when not starting from scratch that work can be messy, costly, and most importantly, disruptive to existing programming. The stadium football field at Tequesta Trace Park was rebuilt in 2008. Drainage improvements were made to one of the two practice football fields last spring and more work is slated for the coming year.



The City Commission, in the 2014 fiscal year budget, has approved a number of projects to improve the park infrastructure. In fact, over \$750,000 will be spent this year on drainage improvements, including some of the soccer fields at Regional Park and on the installation of artificial turf on some of the underutilized hockey courts. That work won't be a cure-all but it is a significant step in the right direction and will put the parks in a position to better handle more significant projects to come.

Continued on next page



“Sports are important to our community - can’t anything else be done?”

Weston takes great pride in the City park system and long-term planning efforts are looking at better solutions to the demand being placed on the fields. Artificial turf products have come a long way since the days of AstroTurf and City staff members have been exploring those options. In fact, some of the City batting cages have already been improved with artificial turf surfacing with excellent results and considerable praise by users. The City Commission’s 10-year strategic plan has identified artificial turf fields as a priority, understanding the time and cost involved.



Fortunately, the rainy season is coming to an end. The frustration of the last four weeks should be giving way to the fabulous weather we all look forward to in South Florida.

In the meantime, to know if the fields are open you can go to [Park/Field Closures](#) for current park status. This link is on the city website homepage (www.westonfl.org).

You may also call the Weston Community Center at 954-389-4321 or wait for contact by your sports league.





LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR BROWARD

Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)



Broward MPO is a transportation policy-making board responsible for transportation planning and funding allocation in Broward County. The Broward MPO works with the public, planning organizations, government agencies, elected officials, and community groups to develop transportation plans.

From community participation, the MPO has learned that public transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements are key to shaping the future of transportation in South Florida. They want to find ways to make these options more appealing to you. Please help them to direct their efforts to improve public transit, cycling and pedestrian options in South Florida by taking the brief 12-question survey below.

Take A Survey

When completed, the results of this brief, 12-question survey and the findings will be made available on the Commitment 2040 website at <http://www.browardmpo.org/commitment-2040/get-involved.html>

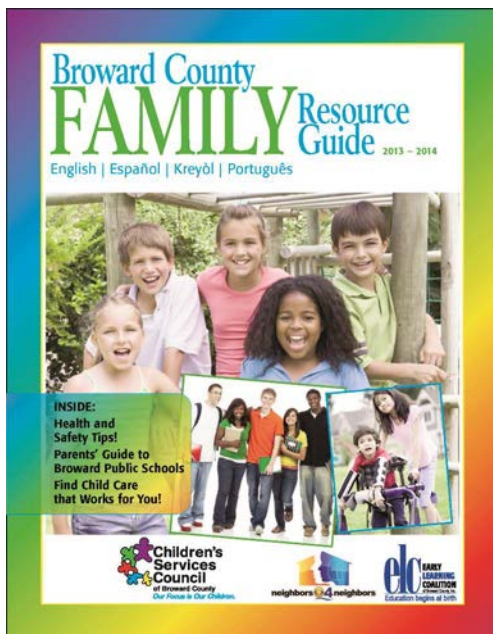
**Please share this with your friends, family and co-workers.
The more input gathered, the better this plan will be.**

Get connected. Stay Involved.



FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE AVAILABLE Children's Services Council of Broward

The 2013-2014 Broward County Family Resource Guide is now available. It provides a wealth of information compiled into one easy-access publication. A link to the downloadable version is below. There are also a limited number of hard copies available at the Weston Community Center.



The guide includes information on a wide range of community resources including advocacy, volunteer organizations, disability services, job placement, family support, health care, legal, mental health, substance abuse, recreation, and target group services

There are informative sections dedicated to Broward County Public Schools, helpful websites, child care options, child development, health and safety, and family life.

The guide is in four languages:
English, Spanish, Creole and Portuguese.

[Click here to download](#)

The Broward County Family Resource Guide has something for everyone. Pick up your copy today at the Weston Community Center while supplies last or download the version above.

We suggest you keep it handy throughout the year.

For more information, please visit
<http://www.cscbroward.org/Home.aspx>.



DROP OFF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE, ELECTRONICS, BULK AND YARD WASTE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Weston residents can dispose of household hazardous waste, electronics, bulk waste and yard waste at various locations in Broward County.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal and Electronics Drop-Off

Available to residents of:

Cooper City, Dania Beach, Deerfield Beach, Hollywood, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Lauderdale Lakes, Margate, Pembroke Park, Sea Ranch Lakes, West Park, [Weston](#), Wilton Manors and Unincorporated Broward County.

Residential Yard Waste and Bulk Waste Drop-Off

Available to residents of:

Dania Beach, Hollywood, Margate, Pembroke Park, [Weston](#), West Park and Unincorporated Broward County.

Drop-Off Locations

For the cities listed above, which includes Weston, the following drop-off locations are available on Saturdays between 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (proof of residency is required):

- ~ [Pompano Beach](#) 2780 N. Powerline Road (north of Copans Road)
- ~ [West Park](#) 5601 W. Hallandale Beach Blvd. (east of U.S. 441)
- ~ [Davie](#) 5490 Reese Road (off Davie Road)

Additional drop-off locations (electronics only)

- ~ [Fort Lauderdale](#) 3300 S.W. 13th Avenue
Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday - Friday
- ~ [Sunrise](#) 10250 N.W. 53rd Street
Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday

For more information, visit [Household Hazardous Waste](#) or call 954-765-4999.



BROWARD COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DOG SMARTS 101 CLASS Tuesday, October 8th



Are you baffled on why Fido keeps chewing your good shoes or waits to go potty inside your home after letting him/her outdoors?

If you answered yes, then the Dog Smarts 101 Class is for you!

The pet education class will teach dog owners (or anyone thinking about getting a pet), important information about dog behavior and why dogs do the things they do.

This is the perfect class for anyone experiencing behavioral problems with their dog, such as barking, chewing, and housebreaking issues.

Dog Smarts 101 Class will be held:

- * Tuesday, October 8th
- * 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- * West Regional Library, 8601 West Broward Boulevard, Plantation



This class is FREE to all residents in Broward County. Since this is not a dog training session, no pets will be permitted during the class.

For more information, please contact West Regional Library,
Lisa Mendheim at 954-359-1010 or visit

<http://www.broward.org/ANIMAL/PROGRAMSSERVICES/Pages/DogSmarts.a.spx>.



October 8, 2013

THRILLS AND CHILLS AT BROWARD COUNTY PARKS
Celebrate Halloween early in a safe and family friendly environment!

Hallo-Green Special Event

Saturday, October 12th (11:00am – 3:00pm)

Don't miss the first event of the season, Hallo-Green Special Event, at the Anne Kolb Nature Center. The event, which charges \$2 per person, includes environmentally friendly activities, games, and arts and crafts. For more information, call Anne Kolb 954-357-5161.

Ghosts and Goblins Family Fun Night

Friday, October 25th (6:00pm - 8:00pm)

Fern Forest Nature Center hosts its Ghosts and Goblins Family Fun Night. The popular annual event, for ages 2 to 11 accompanied by an adult, includes a costume parade, games and prizes, arts and crafts, photos in the Pumpkin Patch, and an age-appropriate storytime. Refreshments will also be available for purchase. The overall event is free, although there are nominal fees for arts and crafts and photos in the Pumpkin Patch. For more information, call Fern Forest at 954-357-5198.

Haunted Tails on Easterlin Trails

Friday and Saturday, October 25th and 26th (7:00pm – 11:00pm)

Easterlin Park will host Haunted Tails on Easterlin Trails, featuring a haunted maze on the park's nature trails. Call the park at 954-357-5190 for fees and additional information.

Spooktacular 5K Road Race

Saturday, October 26th (7:00am – 12:00pm)

For a completely different take on pre-Halloween festivities, sign up for the Spooktacular 5K Road Race, a run and walk at T.Y. (Topeekeegee Yugnee) Park, presented by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Road Runners Club. For more information, call the park at 954-357-8811, or visit www.gflrrc.org.



For more information on any of the above events, visit
<http://www.broward.org/parks/Pages/Default.aspx>.





FUN IN SPANISH FOR CHILDREN (DIVERSIÓN EN ESPAÑOL) Weston Community Center

Calling children ages two through five; don't forget your Spanish!

The only way to hang on to your roots is to practice! Learn and practice Spanish with others that wish to learn in a playful, musical and artistic environment.



This class is open to both Spanish speaking and non-Spanish speaking children.

DATES: Runs continuously through the year
DAYS: Ages 2-5, Fridays at 10:00am – 11:30am
COST: \$40 per month



For more information, please contact Maria at 954-822-7528 or funinspanish@hotmail.com or call the Weston Community Center at 954-389-4321.

The Community Center is located inside the Weston Regional Park (20200 Saddle Club Road).

For a complete listing of all Community Center classes,
www.westonfl.org/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/ParksAndRecreationHome



October 8, 2013

WESTON BRANCH LIBRARY
Fantasy Theatre Factory Presents

LITTLE MONSTER TALES

Little Monster Tales is the Trick to make reading a Treat!

Come out and join the spooktacular stories on Saturday, October 19th between 11:00AM to 11:45AM at the Weston Branch Library in the Multi-Purpose Room, 4205 Bonaventure Boulevard.

For all ages (children should be accompanied by parent or guardian).

Monster Tales are children's books that will be brought to life on stage by combining reading, literature, comedy, puppets, music, and even a headless butler who can juggle! The program ends with a hilarious Monster Dance to Thriller.



For more information, please contact the Weston Branch Library, Children Programs and Events at 954-357-5430 or visit <http://www.broward.org/Library/EventsClasses/Pages/ProgramsWE.aspx>.



UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS



FREE MOONLIGHT MOVIE IN THE PARK

Hotel Transylvania

Saturday, October 12th 8:00pm

Hotel Transylvania is where the world's monsters can take a rest from human civilization. Dracula invites some of the most famous monsters, including Frankenstein's monster, Mummy, a Werewolf family, and the Invisible Man, to celebrate the 118th birthday of his daughter Mavis. Animated, Comedy / 1 hr 35 min

Location: Event Stage next to the Community Center in the Weston Regional Park, 20200 Saddle Club Road. Children under 12 must be

accompanied by an adult. 954-389-4321.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets and sit back and relax...the movie is on us!



CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, October 21st 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the Weston City Commission.

Location: Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd.



QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL BULK PICKUP

Wed., Oct. 23rd, Thur., Oct. 24th, Fri., Oct. 25th.

Multi-Family: *Sat., Oct. 26th

Bulk trash will be picked up **on your regularly scheduled collection day**. Bulk trash must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. For residences with dumpster service, place items alongside dumpster. *Indicates pick-up for multi-family units.

For more information, call Public Services at 954-385-2600.

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW – Consider donating before tossing. Several national organizations will even pick-up directly from your residence – you don't even have to wait for bulk pick-up day! There are many local, well-established charitable organizations that readily accept donated items.

CLICK HERE FOR ADDITIONAL PAGES



CALLING ALL RUNNERS - Training for the big race
Wednesday, October 23rd 7:00pm-9:00pm

Seminar providing information on how to train safely & effectively to achieve your personal best whether training for a marathon or 5K. BMI and Blood Pressure screenings before and after the program.

Location: Cypress Bay High School Auditorium, 18600 Vista Park Blvd., Weston.

REGISTRATION Required: Free event, limited space. Please call 954-837-1130.



PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FILING DATES-2013
Special sign-up dates within Weston

No need to drive downtown. The Broward County Property Appraiser is providing dates for homeowner sign-up at two Weston locations for Homestead, Senior and other property tax exemptions. For information visit www.bcpa.net.

Weston Community Center	20200 Saddle Club Road	4:30PM – 6:00PM
Mon., October 28 th	■ Mon., November 25 th	■ Mon., December 16 th
Bonaventure Town Center Club	16690 Saddle Club Road	4:30PM – 6:00PM
Tues., November 5 th	■ Tues., December 3 rd	

Documents required to file a Homestead Exemption: A current Florida driver's license or Florida identification card, AND A current voter registration card or declaration of domicile (Non-US citizens must also provide proof of legal residency).



CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, November 4th 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the Weston City Commission.

Location: Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd.



VETERANS DAY OBSERVED

Monday, November 11th – City Offices Closed

All City administrative offices will be closed in observance of Veterans Day. Veterans Day is a day set aside to honor the members of our military, past and present. Please take a moment to pause and give thanks to all of our men and women who have served in uniform, and for those protecting our country today.

All city parks will be open and there is regular garbage collection.



October 8, 2013



MAGIC SHOW

Saturday, November 16th 1:30PM & 3:00PM

Don't miss this free family event! Coins, cards, ropes, scarves & rings... the magic happens right before your eyes!

Suggested Age Level: Pre K – 2nd Grade. Info: 954-389-4321

Location: The Weston Community Center, 20200 Saddle Club Rd.



FREE MOONLIGHT MOVIE IN THE PARK

The Croods

Saturday, November 16th 7:30pm

This prehistoric adventure follows a family as they embark on the journey of a lifetime after their cave that shielded them from danger is destroyed. As they travel across the spectacular landscape, they discover an incredible new world filled with fantastic creatures.

Location: Event Stage next to the Community Center in the Weston Regional Park, 20200 Saddle Club Road. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. 954-389-4321.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets and sit back and relax...the movie is on us!



CPR SAFE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program offers FREE CPR classes to residents, organizations and businesses and their employees. Convenient weeknight and weekend CPR classes are offered as well as training right at your own location at a time convenient for you (min. 8 persons). **Call 954-389-2015** today.



SMOKE ALARM AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program is designed to reach resident seniors or the disabled who are unable to safely install smoke alarms and/or replace the batteries in existing alarms. Please call **954-389-2015** to schedule this FREE service for our Weston residents.

 Notifications

WESTON DELIVERS THE LATEST NEWS DIRECTLY TO YOUR INBOX

Select from two options (*we recommend BOTH*):

- **Newsday Tuesday:** A collection of city news articles, information and events.
- **General Notifications:** Updates on construction projects; media releases; sports registrations and events. Subscribe at www.westonfl.org/EmailSubscriptions.aspx.

 CODE RED

REGISTER FOR CodeRED TODAY

Hurricane Season began June 1st – be prepared!

All residents and businesses should register with the City's CodeRED Emergency Notification System. The City will only send out a message on CodeRED in an emergency situation or to update residents after an emergency. To register, please visit <http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/CodeRed.aspx>.