

Swim Lessons at Gillis Pool Need Advocacy

According to a staff member with the City of Austin Aquatics Department, the most vocal neighborhoods generally get what they want. Historically, swim lessons offered at Gillis Pool do not meet the minimum enrollment requirement, including the "2012" season, so are cancelled. The 2013 schedule has been approved and marketed, so Aquatics is unable to add lesson sessions; however, if neighbors in Dawson and Galindo can gather a group of like-age children, the department can arrange for an instructor to teach the children for a session (4 days per week for 2 weeks), which would be taught during the pool's scheduled hours of 12pm- 6pm.

No swim lessons are available close to Dawson but if everyone who is interested in adult or child swim lessons called or emailed the office, they might change the hours and what is offered. Call the main office at 974-9343 or email Division Manager Tom Nelson at tom.nelson@austintexas.gov, Aquatics Program Manager Jodi Jay at jodi.jay@austintexas.gov, and Instructional Swim Program Coordinator Nathan Bond at nathan.bond@austintexas.gov. The Aquatics' booklet, which includes additional staff email, is available at The Aquatics Office at Deep Eddy Pool and other places around town (Rec centers, libraries, etc...).

Additional information can be found at: <http://austintexas.gov/department/pools-and-swimming>
Registration began April 1st

Dawson residents interested in swim lessons (Learn to Swim, ages 6-12) for Gillis Pool, please email Janet at maxnbigboy@aol.com

We know you love coffee.

Did you know plants do too?

Use coffee grounds in your garden:

- Add them to your compost bin
- Add grounds directly to the soil. Scratch into the top couple inches or just sprinkle on top.
- Add lots of grounds to your soil, up to 25%!
- Create a slug and snail barrier with a line of grounds
- Make a "tea" to use as liquid fertilizer or foliar feed by steeping two cups of grounds with five gallons of water for a few hours or overnight
- Add grounds to your worm bin. A small bin of worms will love a cup or so a week

Don't garden?

- Add a handful to any houseplant.
- Sprinkle over your lawn
- Grow mushrooms
- Use as an exfoliant
- Make air-dry clay for art projects
- Soften and shine hair
- Repel ants
- Make sachets of grounds to absorb odors
- Share! Find a community garden or park

AustinGroundtoGround.org

Brought to you by:



Cumberland Community Garden now open for business!

Whether you're an experienced gardener - or have never gardened before - there's a place for you to grow healthy food for yourself and your family!

Here's what's available:

- 4' x 8' plots first come first serve
- Experienced and Master Gardeners available to help us learn all we need to know to grow our own healthy food
- Rain barrel on site to help supplement watering
- End-of-the-season, onsite demonstrations to help us learn how to make the most of our produce: Recipes, canning, freezing, ...they may even teach us how to make their award-winning salsa!

All this is free of charge!

Note: if you want a wicking bed there is a one-time fee of \$28.00.

The nice thing about the wicking bed is that you will only need to water your plot every two weeks. It will be your garden, your produce and your weeds! We will all be tending our own garden plots, so you might consider signing up with a friend! If you'd like to have a garden this year, or just want more information, contact:

Sos Palomo at 512.669.8479 or spalomo@trinityal.com

Dawson Neighborhood Association Meeting Draft Minutes – February 11, 2013

Minutes from December meeting approved as printed in newsletter.

New Business: a) It's My Park Day! Presentation from Marisa Fushille. Austin Parks Foundation will provide tools and materials as well as snacks. Plan is to mulch about 50 mature trees. b) Daniella Ochoa provided information about Ground to Ground, a program in which coffee shops collect and give away coffee grounds to residents who sign up. For more information: austingroundtoground.org.

Old Business: Dawson Elementary School PTA paid for Scoop the Poop dispensers and bags and are awaiting approval from principal to install them. Need dog walkers to help keep dispensers filled. A trash can is available in the area where dogs play.

Issues in the Neighborhood: a) car break-ins – please call APD to report all crimes. b) Two members reported owners of 118 Havana cut down protected tree without permit. Advised to call 311 to report to Code Compliance as owners can be fined. c) City to install sidewalks on the west side of Wilson and Euclid.

Dawson Neighborhood Planning Contact Team (DNPCT) Draft Minutes – February 11, 2013

Minutes approved from the December meeting.

Membership Report: new members Lindsay Prince, Michelle Ellis.

New Business: a) city-mandated annual front yard parking vote; after discussion, vote taken: 16 for, 3 against: the ordinance is NOT adopted. We can still park in our yards. b) Marty spoke with the manager of Ruta Maya, who is interested in the collision center on Pickle Road; Urbanspacecommercial.com; also some other properties in the area might be developed for restaurants, for example on Lessig Lane. Reminder about the marathon next Sunday—expect some traffic before 11:00 or so.

Old Business: what happened with the condos/townhouses on Cumberland? Apparently in financing limbo after builder default.