

THE FOREST REPORTER

HISD Outdoor Education Center @ Forest Glen Newsletter

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Saving our Spaceship Earth

Save our Spaceship (SOS) is one of two science-based, major classes at the Outdoor Education Center (OEC). The class is devoted to learning about our natural resources and has a rotating schedule, with topics such as aquatic ecosystems, energy and conservation. Students are encouraged to think about and discuss ways to bring about positive change within their community when they get home.

Planting Trees for the Future



Native trees planted include water oak, sawtooth oak, pecan, and loblolly pine.

Students this spring are planting native trees at Forest Glen in an effort to repopulate the forest. In addition to learning hands-on skills, students discuss the positive outcomes of their hard work, such as increased habitat and carbon sequestration. Each visiting school also receives a few trees to take back and plant at their site.

Tree Planting in Houston

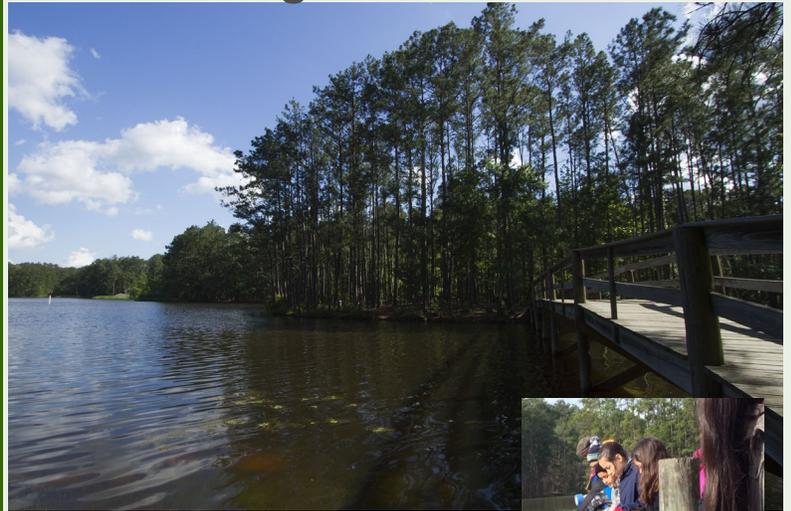
If you would like more information about planting trees in Houston, the Parks and Recreation Department has put together some [great information](#) about how, when and where to plant. They also produce a very helpful [booklet](#), available online!

[Trees for Houston](#) is a non-profit organization dedicated to planting, protecting, and promoting trees throughout Houston. If you would like to get planting yourself, they have many [volunteer opportunities](#) throughout the year.

Need more tree planting information? [The City of Houston Office of Sustainability](#) has it covered. Their tree planting website covers native species, strategic plans and organizations involved in a variety of tree planting initiatives.

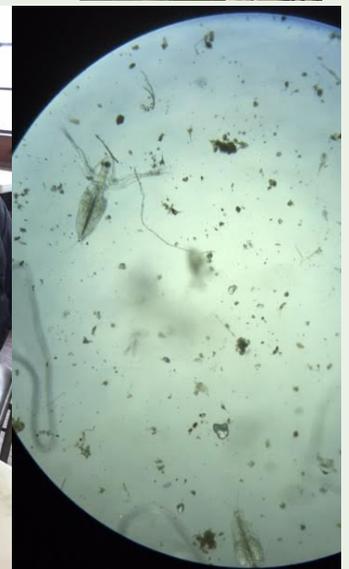
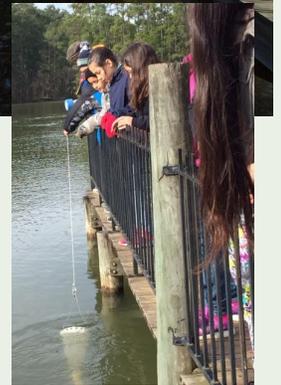
If you are interested in attending a magnet program specializing in science, conservation or other STEM subjects, check out these [HISD schools](#).

Discovering the Life of the Lake



These students are looking for microscopic plankton that have been retrieved from the lake using a special device called a plankton tow. (Right)

Now it is time to identify the captured plankton using a dissecting microscope that magnifies up to 30 times. Look at what they observed! (Below)



Interested in learning more about aquatic systems around Houston? [Sheldon Lake State Park](#) is a great resource for pond and wetland exploration!