



# V.I.P.A.R.

Volunteer In Parks and Recreation



## 2026 V.I.P.A.R. Program

Since 1996, the original V.I.P.A.R. (Volunteers in Parks and Recreation) Program has been helping teens build a foundation of knowledge, a positive attitude, and skills that are needed to be a responsible volunteer and future employee.



Applications will open on January 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 and close on February 13<sup>th</sup> 2026  
Scan QR code for our online application.



<https://deerparktxpard.wufoo.com/forms/mw2n1k200elej2/>

Interviews will be conducted in person starting February 23<sup>rd</sup> – March 4<sup>th</sup>

*Prerequisites and additional information are located on our website.*

Deer Park Parks and Recreation  
610 E. San Augustine . 281-478-2050  
[www.deerparktx.gov/recreation](http://www.deerparktx.gov/recreation)



## Deer Park Parks and Recreation

### Mission Statement:

The Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) is dedicated to providing exemplary quality of life services and experiences to the community consistent with our history, culture, and unique character.

### Vision Statement:

The Parks and Recreation Department's vision is to provide innovative and inclusive parks and recreation experiences that foster community growth, promote healthy living, and conserve our natural and historical resources to all residents



Dear Potential V.I.P.A.R. Parents/Guardians and Participants,

Thank you for considering volunteering in the City of Deer Park V.I.P.A.R. Program. We are excited for our 30<sup>th</sup> summer and we cannot wait to have you!

If you are new to the program, you are probably wondering, what is V.I.P.A.R.? V.I.P.A.R. stands for Volunteer in Parks and Recreation and was created in 1996 to teach this age group about the importance and aspects of a job from filling out an application, to interviewing and being responsible for a work schedule. It exposes youth, to new skills while providing extra help for the department. Our program provides volunteer opportunities for youth during the summer all while having fun at our programs such as; Camp Crabgrass, Movie in The Park, and Concerts in The Park, Mini Gourmet, Fun Frenzy, 4<sup>th</sup> Fest just to name a few. Being a V.I.P.A.R. gives individuals a chance to practice life skills, learn responsibility, preparation and accountability.

What are we looking for? We are looking for energetic young people ages 12–15 to volunteer with us in the summer who are able to meet the following requirements:

- 12–15 years old as of May 1, 2026
- Responsible and a great attitude towards volunteering
- Respectful towards all employees, adults and participants
- Good communication
- Ready to work each day and perform all duties required
- Must have reliable transportation (adult driving you, walk, bike, etc.)

What happens once you apply? Once we reach our deadline, we will contact all of the participants by email and/or phone. We will set up an interview time for you to come in and meet with us. Shortly after the interview you will hear from us on if you have been selected. Many variables go into filling a V.I.P.A.R.s. spot, such as availability, interview and how many available spots we have available.

We are looking forward to working with you and your child. If selected to be a part of 2026 V.I.P.A.R.s, we will give you further information about what to expect this year.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

**Ruben Martinez** –Outdoor Recreation Specialist, V.I.P.A.R. Coordinator  
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(281)–478–2059

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## V.I.P.A.R. / Parent Agreement

Please see the following dates below. Mandatory meetings must be attended.  
 Other dates listed are dates available for volunteers to serve.  
 Please select on online application only dates that you are available.

<u>Mandatory</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Weeks</u>
<b>Mandatory VIPAR Scheduled Interview</b> Feb. 23 – Mar. 4 5pm-8pm	<b>Week 1</b> May 25 – May 30  <b>Week 2</b> June 1- June 6	<b>Week 7</b> July 6-July 11  <b>Week 8</b> July 13 -July 18
<b>Mandatory VIPAR. Orientation</b> March 21 2pm-4pm	<b>Week 3</b> June 8-June 13  <b>Week 4</b> June 15-June 20	<b>Week 9</b> July 20- July 25  <b>Week 10</b> July 27-August 1
<b>V.I.P.A.R. Forms Turn In</b> May 11	<b>Week 5</b> June 22-June 27  <b>Week 6</b> June 29- July 4th	<b>Week 11</b> August 3- August 8



## V.I.P.A.R. / Parent Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to conduct myself in a mature, responsible manner and to remember that I am a representative of the Deer Park Parks and Recreation Department. I will attend activities and on the days of meetings, and in the event of illness or an emergency; I will give enough notice to the V.I.P.A.R.s. Coordinator as soon as possible to notify them of my absence.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Summer Schedule

**\*\* Significant changes in availability after acceptance may lead to dismissal of program.**

I understand that my child will need transportation to certain programs he/she will be volunteering for. I will arrange for transportation when it becomes necessary. I further understand that some programs will only be for a few hours and that the V.I.P.A.R.s. discourages volunteers from being on site unless they are volunteering or using the facilities as a patron.

My child must wait with staff until his/her ride arrives  Yes  No

I, the undersigned, understand that my child may be transported for activity purposes by a City of Deer Park employee (s) in a City of Deer Park vehicle. I understand that there exists a possibility of an injury if my child does not abide by safety standards and policies explained to him/her verbally by staff or received in written format. I understand that my son/daughter must safely participate during transportation period during the trip. Lastly, I understand that if an accident does occur, I am obligated for any and all medical costs, ambulance costs and other expenses that arise as a result from transporting by a city vehicle.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## City of Deer Park Volunteer Release Form



I, \_\_\_\_\_ (“Minor”) being permitted by the City of Deer Park to volunteer and to use its property (i.e. city equipment and facilities) as described, I further agree to the foregoing indemnity and release and hold harmless the city from any and all claims that are brought by, or on behalf of, minor and which are in any way connected with such volunteer work or participation by minor.

### **Release and Indemnity**

I hereby release, acquit and forever discharge the City of Deer Park and its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, expenses and judgments of any nature and however caused of whatsoever character or nature arising from or by reason of any and all bodily or personal injuries and damage to property and the consequences thereof which may be sustained by me, which are in any way connected with my participation as a volunteer (including acts or omissions) and/or using of the city property (Including participation in any activities occurring thereon).

I certify that I have no medical or physical conditions, which would interfere with my safety in this activity, or else I am willing to assume, and bear the costs of, all risks that may be created directly or indirectly by any such condition.

I agree that the laws of the State of Texas apply and venue shall be in Harris County, Texas regarding any issue that may arise in any way connected with this agreement, acknowledgment of risk, release and indemnity.

I understand that public relations are an important part of volunteering with the City of Deer Park. I agree, therefore, on behalf of my heirs, personal representatives, and executors to allow the City of Deer Park to use any photograph or video images taken of me and/or which I produce. All photographs or video images will become the sole property of the City of Deer Park. The City of Deer Park may use them as it sees fit. The City of Deer Park will use reasonable efforts to notify me but such notification is not a condition of use under the auspices of the City of Deer Park.

I hereby verify that I have read and understand the contents of the above document and I agree to be bound by its terms and acknowledge same by my signature hereto:

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



## Volunteer in Parks and Recreation



### Personal Reference form (Neighbor, teacher or adult other than a relative)

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

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2. Do you think the applicant is qualified in assisting in recreational programs with guidance? Please explain.

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3. Do you find the applicant to be dependable? To use mature judgment? To be a positive role model for children? Please explain.

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4. Would you consider placing the responsibility of your child with the applicant?

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5. Additional comments.

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6. Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_