



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Brad Reid, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Date:** March 24, 2015

**Reference:** Presentation regarding Biodiversity Education Center Usage and Programming

**2030:** Sense of Community Strategy – Effective Community Partnerships

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### **Introduction:**

The Biodiversity Education Center provides a wide array of opportunities for citizens of all ages to develop environmental literacy knowledge and become engaged in nature through formal and informal classes, programs, volunteer opportunities, and recreational use.

### **Analysis:**

The Biodiversity Education Center provides opportunities to incorporate the natural world and the use of outdoor learning experiences to develop a deeper connection to our community. The Parks and Recreation Department promotes effective collaboration between the Biodiversity Education Center Stakeholders: City of Coppell, Keep Coppell Beautiful, Coppell ISD, Northlake College, Friends of the Coppell Nature Park, Master Naturalists, and other non-profits, in order to offer a wide variety of exceptional quality programming. Through these leveraged partnerships, the Biodiversity Education Center has accommodated thousands of Coppell residents and students through volunteer led field trips, adult environmental seminars, college labs, discover nature preschool classes, professional development, City departmental retreats and events, community work days, and Boy Scout projects in the Coppell Nature Park.

Staff will make a presentation to the City Council at the Work Session to provide updates of current usage and future plans for programming.

### **Legal Review:**

Agenda item did not require legal review.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact for this agenda item.

**Recommendation:**

This is an informational item only. No action by the City Council is necessary.