



City of Murphy
206 N. Murphy Rd.
Murphy, TX 75094
(972) 468- 4000
www.murphytx.org

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2022

Media Contact: Celso Martinez 972-623-8836

Playground at Waters Edge Park to close for two days *Surface undergoing protectant application*

MURPHY (April 22, 2022) Among the various playgrounds within the City of Murphy parks system, a strong case can be made that the new, all-inclusive interactive playground at Waters Edge Park is among the most popular.

Relying on anecdotal estimates, Parks Department employees confidently state that the playground at Waters Edge Park is one of the most utilized both by residents in the immediate neighborhoods and those from other parts of Murphy.

The playground's upgrades, which give patrons a unique, multi-play experience and have contributed to its growing popularity, were financed by the 2017 Capital Improvement Projects bond program.

On Thursday and Friday, April 28 and 29, the popular playground will be closed to all users, as work crews will be applying a rolled on coat of surface protectant on the playground's specialized flooring.

"The protective application is rolled on to coat and penetrate the top layer," says Parks Superintendent Matt Foster. "The protective substance strengthens the surface, adds UV protection, and brightens the look of the colors. It can help prevent cracks, holes, and granulation of the surface."

The preventative maintenance of the so-called poured-in-place surfacing is anticipated to save costly repairs as the flooring ages and as usage increases.

Weather, as is the case in all outdoor applications, will be a determining factor on whether the closure and application occur as scheduled. Cool, dry conditions are required for the successful application of the protective substance.

"We realize this may inconvenience some users, but we want to ensure the continued life of the playground's surface, making it last longer thereby saving money for the City in the long-run," said Foster.

The application and the protectant are environmentally safe and non-toxic to children or animals.

Signs at the playground will be posted with the scheduled closure and notices to homeowner associations will be sent to increase awareness of the temporary shuttering of the playground.

The remaining acreage at the Waters Edge Park will be open for use.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.