

121 W. Broadway St.  
Prosper, TX 75078



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Celso Martinez, 972-623-8836

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## Annual Community Picnic aims to maintain traditions

PROSPER (August 7, 2018) New commercial activity and residential construction in Prosper are moving at an unprecedented pace, converting large swaths of land that had recently been filled with crops or set aside for grazing into shops, retail stores, restaurants and single-family homes.

The Town's profile is quickly changing from mostly rural and agricultural to a suburban community with the right mix of services, shops and other amenities. Nevertheless, in the face of such rapid growth, Prosper's commitment to its small-town feel remains strong, and part of that commitment is the annual Community Picnic, this year set for Saturday, Sept. 8 starting at 4 p.m. at Frontier Park, 1551 Frontier Parkway.

"Prosper residents have come to cherish the small-town atmosphere that's been part of Prosper since its beginning," says Dudley Raymond, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. "The Community Picnic honors tradition, even as the population grows. That is what makes this event so special."

Each September for the last decade, the annual picnic has attracted dozens of families to the Town's signature park to enjoy food, fun and fellowship. In Prosper's early days, the community would gather during the month of September to bring in the fall harvest. The modern-day picnic serves to remember this rich history and to celebrate the small-town spirit that remains.

The picnic is free of charge. Scheduled activities include a petting zoo, pony rides, inflatable games, slides, obstacle course, toddler bounce, face painting, food and drinks.

A special treat for residents is having the Mayor and Council members meet and greet residents while serving hot dogs provided and grilled by members of Lighthouse Christian Fellowship Church. Members of Prosper United Methodist Church handle the refreshments and the Parks and Recreation Board members serve dessert.

Bethlehem Place, the local food pantry, conducts its "Hunger is No Picnic" food drive during the picnic. The drive is a school competition amongst Prosper ISD schools. Schools encourage residents to bring along canned goods and other non-perishables and deposit them in their specific bins. The school collecting the most donations wins a travelling trophy.

In addition, Prosper-based non-profit organizations are invited to join the picnic fun. Exhibit and information-sharing space is reserved for a limited number of organizations to set up a canopy and table, at no charge, to introduce their services and volunteer opportunities to the community.

To apply for this complementary space, organizations should complete and return the form posted at [www.ProsperTX.gov](http://www.ProsperTX.gov) or request an application from [patty\\_kendzie@prospertx.gov](mailto:patty_kendzie@prospertx.gov). Space is limited, and booth space will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Prosper Community Picnic is one of several events and programs presented by the Prosper Parks and Recreation Department throughout the year to promote family and neighbor interaction in community parks.

Additional activities include the Prosper Christmas Festival, Fishing Derby, Men's Softball League, Champion Tree Program, and recreational camps and classes. For the latest news about Town programs, please visit [www.ProsperParksandRec.org](http://www.ProsperParksandRec.org) or [www.ProsperTX.gov](http://www.ProsperTX.gov) or the Prosper Parks and Recreation page on Facebook.

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**ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER** – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 20,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."