

George W. Bush Presidential Center

Native Texas Park Family Scavenger Hunt

Welcome to the prairie! Blackland Prairie used to dominate the Dallas region. Today, only 1% of the prairie remains in the state of Texas. Rediscovery of the lost prairie was the inspiration for this community park. We invite you to explore and learn during your visit to the park as you complete this scavenger hunt while traversing our 1 mile network of trails!

You'll venture through shady Floodplain Forests (filled with moisture-loving trees, shrubs and plants), play on the Great Lawn (an energy-saving mix of 5 native grasses), and walk through the sunny Tall Grass Prairies (filled with old-time prairie plants). You'll visit the Savanna and Woodlands (where the grasslands meet shrubs and small trees), view the wet prairie (home to plants that survive both wet and dry conditions) and last, but not least, you'll see our stunning wildflower meadow where seasonal displays of native Texas wildflowers bloom! Feel free to bring books to help identify what you run across here—that's how we grow as naturalists! Don't forget to be on the look-out for fire ant nests on the trails—they like our park, too!

The park is free and open to the public every day of the year, from sunrise to sunset. Each season brings beautiful changes to the prairie landscape here. Please come back again!



Red or Pink Flower

You may find—Turkscap (pictured), Coralbean, Scarlet Sage, Standing Cypress, Annual Phlox, Winecup, Tall Poppymallow, Pink Evening Primrose or Coneflower.



Sycamore Tree

This tree can be easily identified by its peeling bark in colors of greenish-white, gray and brown. The trunk quickly outgrows its bark and it peels to make room for growth.



The Great Lawn

This is a mix of five different native grasses. It looks different from your lawn, but needs less water, doesn't need fertilizer and only needs mowing 3-4 times a year!



Yellow or Orange Flower

You may find—Maximillian Sunflower (pictured), Engelmann's Daisy, Texas Yellowstar, Scrambled Eggs, Blackeyed Susan, Goldenrod, Indian Blanket, Indian Paintbrush or Butterflyweed.



Native Grass

You may find—Inland Sea Oats (pictured), Silver Bluestem, Sideoats Grama, Green Sprangletop, Bushy Bluestem, Cattails or Creek Sedge.



One Component of our Hydrology System

Find the wet prairie (pictured), the forebay, the seep, one of the bioswales or a crushed stone path.



Bird

The park makes a great habitat for birds. It provides food, shelter and water. You may see mockingbirds (pictured), mourning doves, starlings and robins.



Seed, Fruit or Berry

If you look up high in the trees or low in the bushes you can find nuts, fruits and berries throughout the year. The seeds pictured are from the Mexican Buckeye tree.



Bike Rack

Some people ride their bikes to the park while they enjoy nature. Mountain biking is one of President Bush's favorite activities!



Bug or Butterfly

We have lots of butterflies throughout the year. The one pictured is the Monarch—the State Butterfly of Texas! You'll also see bees, grasshoppers, ladybugs and many more!



Blue or Purple Flower

You may find—Bluebonnet (pictured), Widow's Tears, Prairie Spiderwort, Prairie Verbena, American Basketflower, Purple Horsemint or Mealy Blue Sage.



Amphitheater

Sit and rest or have a snack here! The limestone here and throughout the park was formed by the layering of shells of small fossilized snails, shellfish, and coral over millions of years.