

Interesting Plants of Fall



Little Bluestem Grass

Blue Grama Grass

Indian Grass



Silver Bluestem Grass

Bushy Bluestem Grass

Sideoats Grama Grass



Sycamore Tree Seed Pods

Common Persimmon Tree

Mexican Plum Tree



American Beautyberry Bush

Possumhaw Bush

Elbow Bush



Late-Flowering Boneset

Red Turkscap Flower

Black-eyed Susan Flower



Fall Aster Flower

Bush Sunflower

Mealy Blue Sage Flower



Purple Passionflower

Scarlet Sage Flowers

Western Ironweed Flower



Widow's Tears Flower

Tall Goldenrod Flower

Texas Lantana Flower



Gregg's Mistflower

Virginia Creeper Vine

All photos taken onsite by Park Docent: Marilou Simon

Schedule a Docent Tour email: Bush43Education@nara.gov

5. Ceremonial Court Yard - plants of interest are Morning Cloud Chitalpa, Agaves, Cacti, and perennials that include Turk's Cap, Texas Betony, Black eyed Susan's, Copper Canyon Daisy, and a variety of native sages.

6. Rose Garden - entrance from the Oval Office provides a quiet stroll among Southern Magnolias, Natchez Crape Myrtle, Chaste Trees, Texas Mountain Laurel, and a variety of seasonal native annuals and perennials, along with an aquatic garden. Highlights are heat-tolerant Perle d'Or Roses and native Brazilian Rock Rose bushes.



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Native Texas Park Self-Guided Tour

FALL GUIDE

Welcome to the George W. Bush Presidential Center with a native Texas landscape in a 15-acre urban park. The Bush Center grounds reflect President and Mrs. Bush's longstanding commitment to environmental conservation and restoration. The Native Texas Park (NTP) features:

- Native Blackland Prairie grasses
- Seasonal wildflowers
- Clearings that provide native habitats for butterflies, birds, and other species
- Tree-shaded lawns
- Amphitheater

A one mile network of paths will take you through native Texas environments such as Blackland Prairie, Post Oak Savannah and Cross Timbers Forest.



The Bush Center in background, Maximilian Sunflowers on pathway



- * NTP Entrances
- 1 Mile path - visit all the main areas as you circle the park
- — Great Lawn (8) path- Short walk that overlooks the park
- — West Prairie (13) path - See native prairie flowers and grasses in their element
- — Wildflower Meadow (11)/Wet Prairie/Cistern (10) path - Seasonal wildflowers, view the main component of the park's hydrology system

Using the Center's Landscape Education Map and Guide with this suggested path, you may travel at your own pace to specific highlighted areas where you may learn about the function of each area and identify the plants that live there. The map key corresponds to the numbers for each area. Seasonal plants are pictured elsewhere in this brochure. Please protect this habitat by staying on the pathways.



To start the tour, please use the Bush Avenue Entrance: There are many trails, pathways, steps and restful benches as you explore our 15 acre park. Take a moment, as you follow this suggested route, to venture onto these other paths. Sit and enjoy the quiet sounds of the water trickling from the Seep, observe the grasses blowing in the wind, and discover the many birds, butterflies and insects that inhabit this re-established Blackland Prairie in the heart of Dallas.

4./8. North Lawns/Great Lawn (the — — path) The grass consists of a mix of five types of native grasses: Buffalo Grass, Blue Grama, Texas Grama, Poverty Drop Seed and Curly Mesquite (a similar mix called Habiturf may be purchased from the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center website). This grass mixture requires less mowing (3-4 times a year), watering (1/2" of water every two weeks in drought), weeding and feeding than other traditional lawns. It is not good for athletic fields or high traffic areas. Once established, it can be mowed to a height of three to four inches for a more traditional look.

12. The Seep is a 150 foot long limestone wall that serves as an outlet for water collected from the northwest side of the site. A shady microclimate and fluctuating water levels support moisture-loving plants. A few you will see here are: variety of ferns, Spiderlily and Coralberry.

13. The West Prairie (follow the — — path) is behind the Seep area with a pathway allowing another entrance to the Wildflower Meadow. The three prairies, **East, South and West (13)**, consist of 37 grass species and 53 wildflower species, including Indian Grass, Switchgrass, Goldenrod, Coneflowers, Indian Blanket, Horsemint and many more; establishing a habitat for birds, butterflies and other indigenous wildlife.

Cross over the **wood bridge**. The park bridges highlight the beauty and sustainability of Black Locust wood. It is resistant to rot and extremely hard, making it an excellent and sustainable alternative to tropical hardwoods.

11. The Wildflower Meadow (the — — path) brings the spectacular, early springtime, Central Texas event — the blooming Bluebonnets — into the city for all to see. Accompanying the Bluebonnets, are Pink Evening Primrose, Texas Paintbrush and Scrambled Eggs.

10. The Wet Prairie/Cistern: Rainwater from the parking areas, paths and planted zones travels to the Wet Prairie through a series of overland bioswales and underground pipes. Because of the moisture fluctuations, the plant life here also includes moisture-adapted plants such as Green Sprangletop and Maximilian Sunflower. Grasses include Little Bluestem and Bushy Bluestem. Some sedges to look for are Cherokee Sedge and Inland Sea Oats.

Pause here ⊗ at the top of the hill in the southern-most edge of the property and enjoy **Laura Bush's favorite view** from the grounds. Take in a 360 degree panorama of Dallas' skyline, SMU's Georgian campus and the Bush Center.

9. The Forebay: This man-made pool allows water from the paved service area and the building to filter here before being released into the park, temporarily detaining the water, slowing down the velocity and allowing sediment to further settle prior to it flowing into the Wet Prairie and cistern.

13. The East Prairie and Amphitheater: The Amphitheater is situated in one of the Post Oak Savannas. Some of the trees and bushes here are: Bur Oak, Eastern Red Cedar, Pecan, Possumhaw, Texas Mountain Laurel, Cenizo, Mexican Buckeye. The indigenous limestone used here, and throughout the park, is Leuders Limestone from Abilene.

7. The South Terrace is not open to the public but continues the use of Texas native plants: Morning Cloud Chitalpa, Eve's Necklace, Dwarf Yaupon Holly, Turks Cap, Spiderwort and Mealy Blue Sage.

Resource Links: Mockingbirdsandbluebonnets Native Plant Society of Texas - NPSOT.org: specific Texas plant search Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center:: wildflowercenter.org