Mother Neff State Park

A natural gathering place in the heart of Central Texas

Welcome to Mother Neff State Park, heart of the Texas state park movement. Climb the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built rock tower and peer over forests of oak and juniper. Walk through Washita prairie grasslands and enjoy the remarkable diversity of plants and wildlife in this small park.

STAYING SAFE

KNOW YOUR LIMITS. Prepare for sun and heat. Wear sunscreen, insect repellent and appropriate clothing/hiking shoes.

DRINK PLENTY OF WATER. Your body quickly loses fluids when you're on the trail. Bring a quart of water per hour of activity.

TELL OTHERS WHERE YOU'LL BE. If possible, avoid exploring alone. Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

WEAR A HELMET. Biking is only permitted on park roads. Always wear a helmet and watch for traffic.

POTENTIALLY HARMFUL PLANTS AND ANIMALS LIVE HERE. You'll see them more easily if you stay on the trails.

WEATHER CHANGES QUICKLY. Check forecasts before you leave home and prepare for changes in the weather.

FOR EMERGENCIES, PLEASE CALL 9-1-1.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Trash your trash. Keep the park natural. Pack out all of your trash, including dog poo bags, and Leave No Trace.

Leave feeding to nature. Feeding wild animals will make them sick and more likely to harm people.

Don't Pocket the Past. Help preserve Texas heritage. Leave artifacts where you find them and report their location to a ranger.

Take only memories and pictures. Disturbing or removing any of the park's plants, animals or artifacts is a violation of state law.

Keep pets on leashes for their safety, and to protect wildlife.

Campfires are permitted only in designated rings due to potential for ground scarring and wildfires.

TRAIL
DISTANCE  DIFFICULTY  DESCRIPTION
PRAIRIE LOOP      0.6 mi.   Easy   Enjoy this family-friendly walk as you wander through Washita prairies. These grasslands are undergoing restoration to return native grasses and wildflowers. Look for Texas songbirds and pollinators along this trail.
POND TRAIL        0.6 mi.   Easy   Take a walk to the prairie pond and spend some time in the wildlife viewing blind. You never know what you may see if you sit awhile.
TOWER TRAIL       0.6 mi.   Moderate   This trail leads you to the Civilian Conservation Corps rock tower. Climb the spiral stone staircase and enjoy the views from up top! Continue down the trail to a CCC-built picnic table and climb the CCC-carved stone steps leading you to Park Road 14. Exercise caution when conditions are wet.
CAVE TRAIL        0.2 mi.   Moderate   Travel down this trail to see a rock shelter inhabited by the Tonkawa over 200 years ago.
WASH POND TRAIL   0.5 mi.   Moderate   Visit the Wash Pond, a natural basin expanded by the CCC. Take a moment to relax near these clear waters and look for wildlife coming to enjoy this spring-fed retreat.
BLUFF TRAIL       0.4 mi.   Moderate   This trail winds along the limestone bluffs and through forests of oak and Ashe juniper. Listen for the song of the endangered golden-cheeked warbler, which uses strips of bark from the Ashe juniper to make its nest.

For assistance using this map, contact the park. For a web version of the map text, visit our Trails Information page.

For information on Texas State Parks, visit www.texasstateparks.org  Sign up today for free email updates: texasstateparks.org/email  @TexasParksandWildlife  @TPWDparks  #TxStateParks  Sponsor: Whole Earth Provision Co.