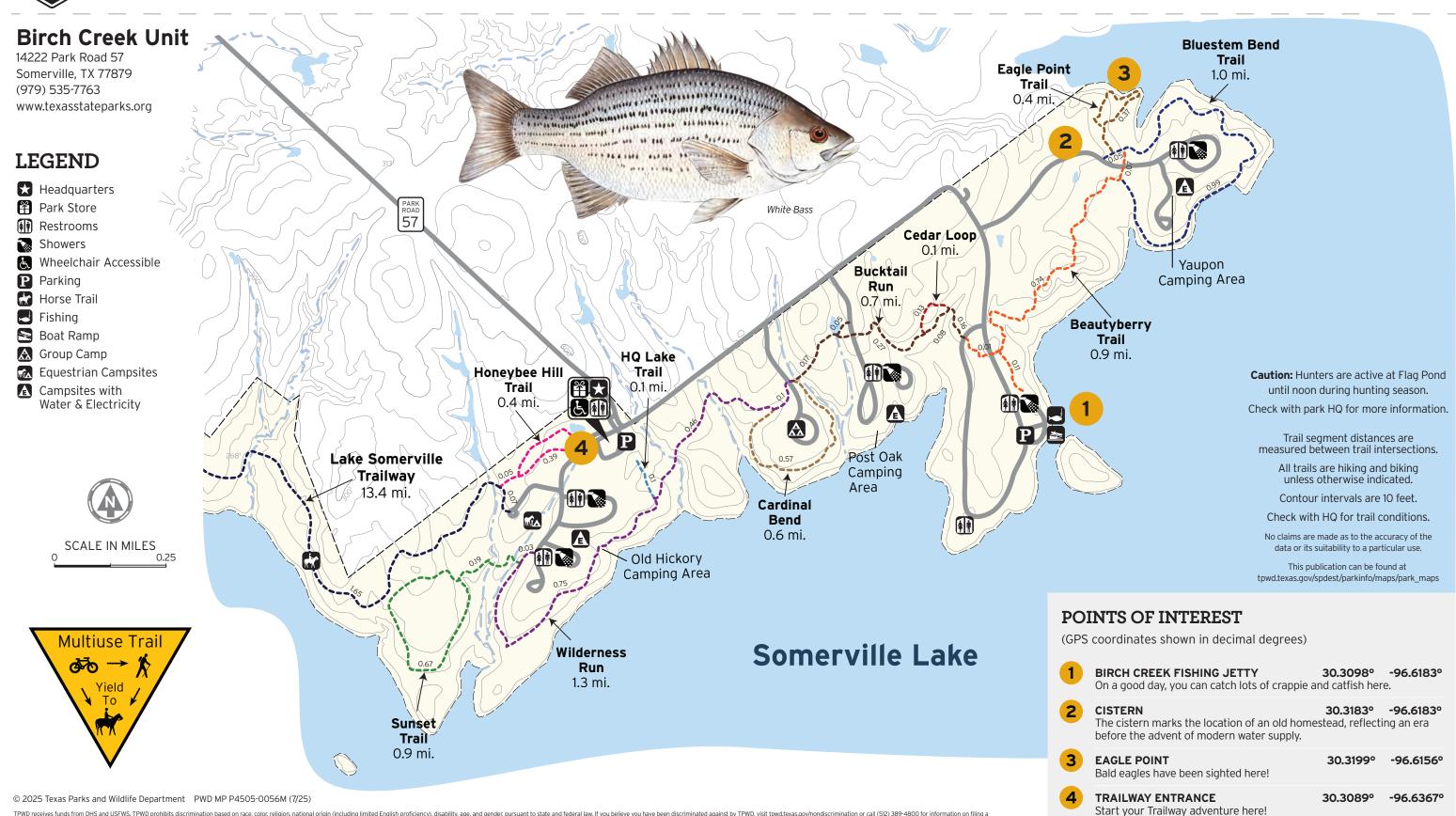


Lake Somerville State Park Birch Creek Unit Trails Map



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Lake Somerville State Park Birch Creek Unit



Cast a line to catch more than fish.

From bird watching to exploring miles of multiuse trails, the sights and sounds of nature will surround you at Birch Creek. Spend your morning strolling through the gently rolling landscape and your afternoon along the shoreline of beautiful Lake Somerville. What new discoveries will you reel in?

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.

BIKE SAFELY. When mountain biking, check with park HQ to match the trail to your skill level. Wear a helmet to protect yourself in case of a crash.

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

CAUTION: Hunters are active at Flag Pond until noon during duck hunting season. Check with the park HQ for more information.



Trash your trash. Pack out all of your trash and Leave No Trace.

Leave feeding to nature. Feeding wild animals will make them sick. Please do not feed them.

Take only memories and pictures. Please don't disturb or remove any of the park's plants, animals or artifacts.

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

FOR EMERGENCIES, PLEASE CALL 9-1-1.



Great Blue Heron

TRAIL	DISTANCE	TIME	DIFFICULTY	DESCRIPTION
LAKE SOMERVILLE TRAILWAY	13.4 mi.	6+ hrs.	Challenging	The gem of the Lake Somerville State Park Complex, Lake Somerville Trailway provides hikers, bikers, backpackers, anglers and equestrians an avenue to enjoy the outdoors. Start your Trailway adventure at the Birch Creek Unit or Nails Creek Unit, or access the middle section from the Newman Bottom parking area. Check with Park HQ before you venture out for information about trail closures.
WILDERNESS RUN	1.3 mi.	1 hr.	Moderate	This quiet trail weaves through the park while offering a chance to see a variety of wildlife. Connect to Sunset Trail or Bucktail Run Trail for a longer trek.
BLUESTEM BEND TRAIL	1.0 mi.	30 min.	Easy	Follow the lake shoreline on this easy trail. Enjoy an excellent view of the intersection where Birch Creek feeds into Somerville Lake. Don't forget your hat and sunscreen!
EAGLE POINT TRAIL	0.4 mi.	20 min.	Easy	Take a short hike to a scenic lookout point or pack a picnic to enjoy under the shade of the oak tree. Watch for birds like Bald Eagles who are known to nest in the area.
BEAUTYBERRY TRAIL	0.9 mi.	1 hr.	Moderate	Wildflowers bloom along this quiet trail. Look for pollinators among the flowers and tall grasses. Be sure to visit throughout the year to watch the colors change. Don't forget to bring your camera!
BUCKTAIL RUN	0.7 mi.	45 min.	Easy	This forested trail connects Wilderness Run Trail to Beautyberry Trail. Enjoy a break alongside the Family Fishing Pond or bring a pole to try and hook a fish!
HONEYBEE HILL TRAIL	0.4 mi.	20 min.	Easy	Enjoy the shade of the trees along this hard-packed, accessible trail. Listen to the songbirds as you stroll along the short loop or enjoy a longer hike by connecting to the Lake Somerville Trailway.
SUNSET TRAIL	0.9 mi.	1 hr.	Moderate	Catch a glimpse of the sunset as you meander through mature hardwood trees and native grasses. Hear the waves on the lake shoreline and the call of owls as dusk approaches.
CARDINAL BEND	0.6 mi.	30 min.	Easy	Bring your binoculars on this easy loop to catch the bright red flash of the Northern Cardinal as well as other wildlife. Connect to the Wilderness Run Trail or Bucktail Run trail for an extended trek.



