Government Canyon
State Natural Area
Trails Map

In case of emergency, call the
GCSNA Visitor Center at
(210) 688-9055 or dial 9-1-1.

LEGEND

Scenic Overlook
Restrooms
Primitive Toilet
Parking
Visitor Center
Fee Station
Amphitheater
Picnic Area
Nature Playscape
Tent Camping
Trailhead

FRONTCOUNTRY

Hiking/Biking Trails:
-Lyttle's Loop
-Savannah Loop

BACKCOUNTRY

Hiking Only Trails:
-Discovery Trail
-Bluff Spurs
-Overlook Trail

Hiking/Biking Trails:
-Caroline's Loop
-Far Reaches Trail
-Joe Johnston Route
-Little Windmill Trail
-Recharge Trail
-Sendero Balcones
-Twin Oaks Trail
-Willican Canyon Trail

PROTECTED HABITAT AREA
(Open September - February Only)

Hiking Only (Seasonal) Trails:
-Black Hill Loop
-Cave Creek Trail
-La Subida Trail
-Sendero Traversero

NOTES:
All trails allow hiking and biking unless otherwise indicated.
Biking is prohibited in the Protected Habitat Area,
on Discovery and Overlook trails, and on Bluff Spurs.
Pets allowed in Frontcountry only.

POINTS OF INTEREST

(GPS coordinates shown in decimal degrees)

1. SAHVANA RESTORATION AREA 29.5664° -98.7533°
   Here we're using proven land management techniques to give a native grass savannah a fighting chance to re-establish its "home turf."

2. WILD CANYON RANCH BUILDINGS 29.5593° -98.7629°
   Imagine this land as a working ranch, as evidenced by a pole barn, corral, stock tank and windmill.

3. DINOSAUR TRACKS 29.5825° -98.7655°
   Created when this area was the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico, these footprints were left by creatures that roamed here 110 million years ago.

4. ZIELMANN HOUSE 29.5848° -98.7620°
   Historians believe that a family of German bakers named Zielemann built this house in 1882. The iconic building stands as testimony to the remoteness of life in the 1880s.

© 2015 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

NOTE: All content is subject to the accuracy of the data and the suitability for a particular use. Map compiled by Texas State Parks staff.
Discover a quiet wilderness surprisingly close to San Antonio.

Nearly 40 miles of trails beckon you to explore the canyonlands and grasslands of Government Canyon State Natural Area. Join us in our mission of protecting highly sensitive ecosystems by observing proper trail etiquette as you explore.

STAYING SAFE

CHECK FOR TRAIL CLOSURES. As a State Natural Area, our principal mission is to protect natural and cultural resources. Environmental conditions may result in temporary trail closures.

KNOW YOUR LIMITS. Prepare for sun and heat. Wear a hat and take plenty of water, snacks and sunscreen. People average two miles per hour while hiking.

DRINK PLENTY OF WATER. Bring a quart (32 oz.) of water per hour of activity, and don’t forget your pets need water, too.

LET OTHERS KNOW YOUR PLANS. If hiking alone, leave details visible from your vehicle.

HELMETS ARE RECOMMENDED. When mountain biking, check with staff to match the trail to your skill level. Wear a helmet to protect yourself.

GOT BARS? Take along a cell phone and GPS unit, but don’t count on them.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Preserve your trails. Staying off wet trails helps prevent rutting, erosion and destruction of trails.

Trash your trash. Put the “natural” in natural area. Pack out all of your trash and Leave No Trace.

Take only memories and pictures. Please don’t disturb or remove any of the natural area’s plants, animals or artifacts. Stay on designated trails.

Leave feeding to nature. Feeding wild animals can make them sick and harm their ability to survive on their own.

Leash your pets. Keeping them on a leash and under control protects your pets, other people and wildlife. Please note that NO pets are allowed in the Backcountry.

Respect fellow trail users. Be courteous to all trail users; bikers must yield to hikers.

FOR AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCIES, PLEASE CALL 9-1-1.