Texas Game Wardens

When it counts, they're here for Texas.
Now it’s time for us to be there for them.

For more than 114 years, they’ve protected our Texas wildlife and enforced our state’s game laws; kept our land and waters safe so all Texans can enjoy our state’s natural beauty; stopped illegal poaching; and patrolled and safeguarded our public lands.

Game Wardens help conserve Texas’ great outdoors.
They keep Texas hunters, anglers and boating enthusiasts safe.

And when Texas has been threatened by flood, hurricane, tornado, severe weather or other natural disasters, they have gone into harm’s way.

That’s the way it’s been since 1895 for these “can-do” peace officers.

Now Texas Game Wardens need our help.

This proud tradition of service is carried on today by more than 500 men and women from across Texas, representing the great diversity that is our state.

Texas Game Wardens are among the best trained, most dedicated in the country. And that’s a direct result of their world-class training.

Only 10 percent of all applicants are accepted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s law enforcement training program.

For more than 30 years, that training was done in a converted warehouse on 6.2 acres in downtown Austin and on a patchwork of borrowed facilities around Texas.

» Now a new facility is being constructed on 220 acres in Hamilton County.
Game wardens patrolled 11.2 million vehicle miles in 2008 and 131,888 boathours on Texas waters. For over 100 years, Texans have called them heroes.

- They handled nearly 3.4 million law enforcement contacts in 2008.
- They made 9,749 water safety arrests and 20,768 fish and game violation arrests last year.
- They have rescued thousands of Texans caught in hurricanes, floods or other natural disasters.
- They stand ready for whenever Texas calls on their professionalism, heroism and service. Sixteen have died in the line of duty.

Now they need the help of Texans like you to have a first class training facility for the first line of defense for Texas parks and wildlife.

Your help is essential to get the job done.

The Texas Legislature got the ball rolling with $3.6 million to begin construction. Private donors have contributed another $7 million for the project. But $10 million more is needed to finish the job.

The majority of Texas Parks and Wildlife operations are paid for by income from licenses, admission fees, boat registration revenue and taxes on sporting goods. There is relatively little undedicated general revenue for operations.

So rather than divert those funds from our parks, wildlife and conservation programs, a private non-profit organization – the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation – is leading the effort to raise the funds necessary to complete the new training center.

You can help with your tax-deductible contribution. Call us today at (214) 720-1478. Ask for Executive Director Dick Davis. Or write us at TPWF, 1901 North Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201. Or visit www.tpwf.org

Every Texan who enjoys our great state’s lands and waters owes our game wardens a debt of gratitude. Please, do your part to help protect our parks and wildlife.

Support the Texas Game Warden Training Center Capital Campaign Today.
The New Texas Game Warden Training Center

For more than 30 years, game warden cadets were trained in a converted warehouse on 6.2 acres in downtown Austin, along with a patchwork of borrowed facilities around the state.

That changed when the 54th Texas Game Warden Academy cadet class began training in fall 2008 at a 220-acre facility in Hamilton County. Envisioned from the beginning as a public-private partnership, the property was donated by the nonprofit Police Activities League.

The Texas Legislature authorized an initial infusion of $3.6 million to begin construction on more than 39,000 square feet of instructional, administrative and residential facilities. Along with the state’s initial investment, private donors have raised about half the estimated $20 million that will be required to complete construction of facilities that will be home to 48 cadets and 16 instructors at a time.

The Game Warden Training Center eventually will include a water rescue training facility, a firing range, an emergency vehicle operations course and more — specialized training facilities that add dozens of hours in travel time and thousands of dollars to the training schedule now. It all adds up to a world-class training environment for a world-class law enforcement agency.

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