WELCOME TO MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK! THE INSPIRATION FOR OUR TEXAS STATE PARK SYSTEM STARTED HERE ALONG THE SHADY BANKS OF THE LEON RIVER. PEOPLE HAVE BEEN COMING TO THIS SPECIAL PLACE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS—IT’S NOW YOUR TURN! EXPLORE REMINDERS OF THE PAST AND MAKE MEMORIES OF YOUR OWN.

In 2015 Mother Neff State Park suffered a series of devastating floods. A half-mile logjam and record area rainfall caused the Leon River to flood and submerge more than 80 acres. The flood water destroyed structures and campsites in the lower section of the park. Areas of the park remain closed while we work to clear debris, restore habitat and rebuild structures. We appreciate your patience while we recover!

- Preserve the integrity of the historic CCC structures by using them with respect.
- Hike on designated trails only and stay out of closed areas.
- Leave no trace! Keep your park and river clean by not littering.
- Preserve the park for future generations and leave plants, animals, and fossils where you find them. Don’t pocket the past.

FURTHER READING

**Texas State Parks and the CCC: The Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps** by Cynthia Brandimarte with Angela Reed, Texas A&M University Press, 2013.

**Parks for Texas: Enduring Landscapes of the New Deal** by James Wright Steely, University of Texas Press, 1999.


**Flower of the Wilderness, Mother Neff and the State Parks of Texas** by Martha Deeringer, Book Locker, 2014.

For more information about programs or volunteering, contact the park or visit our website and add us on Facebook.

Mother Neff State Park
1921 Park Road 14, Moody, TX 76557
(254) 853-2389 • www.tpwd.texas.gov/motherneff
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WHERE WORLDS COLLIDE

Did you know that within the boundaries of this 400-acre park are four vastly different worlds?

Mother Neff State Park lies at the confluence of three ecological zones: the Lampasas Cut Plain and Washita Prairie (subdivisions of the Grand Prairie), and Blackland Prairie. Additionally, the natural geography of the park creates four distinct habitats: towering hardwoods grow in the Leon River bottomlands, Texas oaks thrive on the lower ravine slopes, Ashe juniper mature on the higher ravines and grasses ripple in the wind on the upper prairie. This rich diversity of habitats draws numerous species of plants, insects, birds and animals to this one special place.

Biodiversity, the variety of life, is important to us all. The stunning Texas wildflowers we enjoy each spring bloom thanks to the work of pollinators like bees, butterflies, birds and even bats. Did you find any scat (animal poop) on the side of the trail? Look closely and you may spot some seeds from berries or prickly pear fruit. Mammals like raccoons and coyotes dine on these tasty treats and disperse the undigested seeds in their droppings, helping plants spread to new lands.

Everyone has a role. Communities with high biodiversity are stronger and more resistant to changes in the environment. As you travel through these different habitats, look and listen for the variety of life in Mother Neff State Park.