

## Areas accessible from inside the museum

5. **Ceremonial Courtyard** - planting for the Trans Pecos West Texas region

6. **NEWLY RENOVATED (2022) Rose Garden** - entrance from the Oval Office provides a quiet stroll among Southern Magnolias, Natchez Crape Myrtle, Chaste Trees, 10 Laura Bush Rose bushes, and other native plants.

Not all flowers, grasses, trees and shrubs are budding or blooming - nature always surprises you.



Inland Sea Oats  
*Chasmanthium latifolium*



Sideoats grama  
*Bouteloua Curtipendula*



Little Bluestem  
*Schizachrium scoparium*



Switchgrass  
*Panicum virgatum*



Texas Bluebonnet  
*Lupinus Texana*



Pink Evening Primrose  
*Oenothera speciosa*



Widow's Tears  
*Commelina erecta*



Passionvine  
*Passiflora incarnata*



Texas Lantana  
*Lantana urticoides*



Tall Goldenrod  
*Solidago altissima*



Mealy Blue Sage  
*Salvia farinacea*



Drummond's Turk's Cap  
*Malvaviscus arboreus*



Bur Oak — Fall  
*Quercus macrocarpa*



Texas Persimmon  
*Diospyros texana*



Mexican Buckeye  
*Ungnadia speciosa*



Pecan — Fall  
*Carya illinoensis*

Resource Links: Instagram [nativetexaspark](#)

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: [wildflowercenter.org](#)

Native Plant Society of Texas: [NPSOT.org](#) North Texas Master Naturalist: [public.ntmn.org](#)

iNaturalist: [www.inaturalist.org/places/laura-w-bush-native-texas-park](#)



GEORGE W. BUSH  
PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

LAURA W. BUSH  
NATIVE TEXAS PARK

## Self-Guided Tour

### Map and Information

Welcome to the Laura W. Bush Native Texas Park with a native Texas landscape in a 15-acre urban park. The Bush Center grounds reflect President and Mrs. Bush's longstanding commitment to environmental conservation and restoration.

The Native Texas Park (NTP) features:

- Native Blackland Prairie grasses: 36 varieties
- Seasonal wildflowers: 53 varieties
- Clearings that provide native habitats for butterflies, birds, and other species
- Tree-shaded pathways
- Amphitheater with stone seating

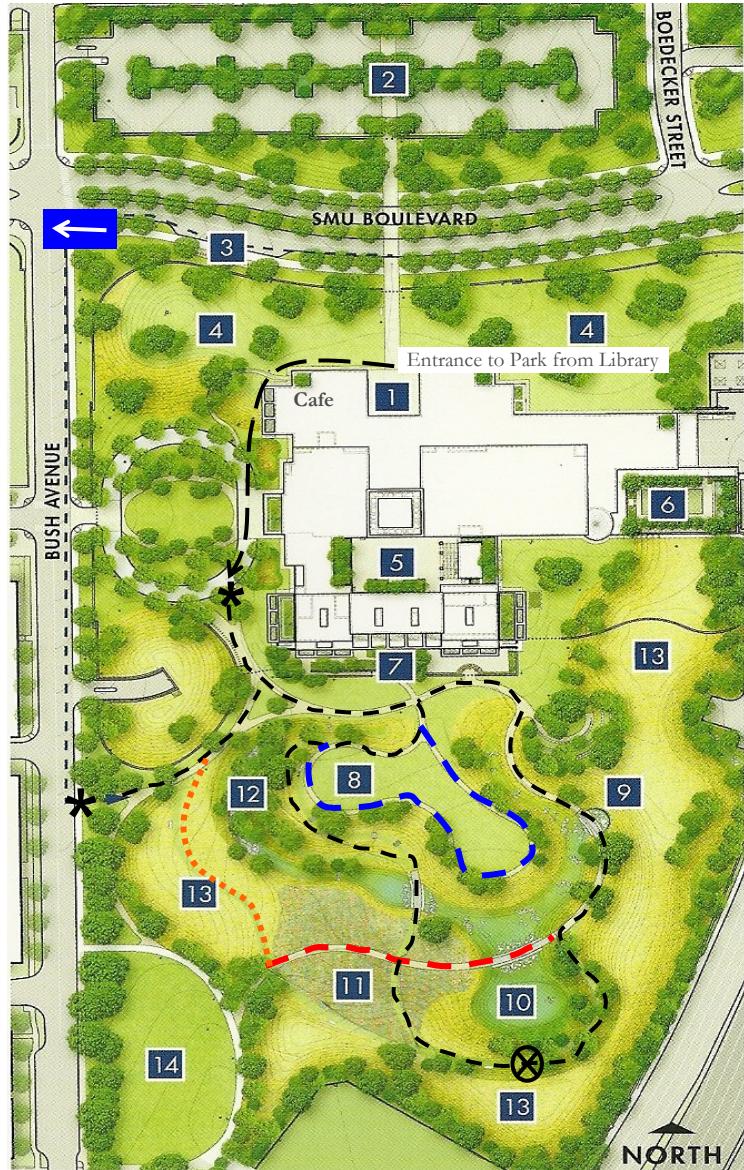
A one mile network of paths will take you through examples of 3 native Texas ecoregions: Blackland Prairie, Post Oak Savannah and Cross Timbers Forest.



The Bush Center from the south, overlooking the Native Texas Park.

The Park is FREE and accessible from Bush Ave, marked with an \* on the enclosed map, open 365 days a year, from Sunrise to Sunset.

Please stay on the pathways and enjoy the park.



\* NTP Entrances

- 1 Mile path - visit all the main areas as you circle the park
- Great Lawn (8) path- Short walk that overlooks the park
- West Prairie (13) path - See native prairie flowers and grasses in their element
- Wildflower Meadow (11)/Wet Prairie/Cistern (10) path - Seasonal wildflowers, view the main component of the park's hydrology system



**To start the tour, please use the Bush Avenue Entrance:** There are many trails, pathways, steps and restful benches as you explore our 15 acre park. Take a moment, as you follow this suggested route, to venture onto these other paths. Sit and enjoy the quiet sounds of the water trickling from the Seep, observe the grasses blowing in the wind, and discover the many birds, butterflies and insects that inhabit this re-established Blackland Prairie in the heart of Dallas.

**4.8. North Lawns/Great Lawn** (the — path) The grass consists of a mix of five types of native grasses: Buffalo Grass, Blue Grama, Texas Grama, Poverty Drop Seed and Curly Mesquite (a similar mix called Habiturf may be purchased from the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center website). This grass mixture requires less mowing (3-4

times a year), watering (1/2" of water every two weeks in drought), weeding and feeding than other traditional lawns. It is not good for athletic fields or high traffic areas. Once established, it can be mowed to a height of three to four inches for a more traditional look.

**12. The Seep** is a 150 foot long limestone wall that serves as an outlet for water collected from the northwest side of the site. A shady micro-climate and fluctuating water levels support moisture-loving plants. A few you will see here are: variety of ferns, Spiderlily and Coralberry.

**13. The West Prairie** (the — path) is behind the Seep area with a pathway allowing another entrance to the Wildflower Meadow. The three prairies, **East, South and West (13)**, consist of 36 grass species and 53 wildflower species, including Indian Grass, Switchgrass, Goldenrod, Coneflowers, Indian Blanket, Horsemint and many more; establishing a habitat for birds, butterflies and other indigenous wildlife. Cross over the **wood bridge**. The park bridges highlight the beauty and sustainability of Black Locust wood. It is resistant to rot and extremely hard, making it an excellent and sustainable alternative to tropical hardwoods.

**11. The Wildflower Meadow** (the — path) brings the spectacular, early springtime, Central Texas event—the blooming Bluebonnets—into the city for all to see. Accompanying the Bluebonnets, are Pink Evening Primrose, Indian Paintbrush and Scrambled Eggs.

**10. The Wet Prairie/Cistern:** Rainwater from the parking areas, paths and planted zones travels to the Wet Prairie through a series of overland bioswales and underground pipes. Because of the moisture fluctuations, the plant life here also includes moisture-adapted plants such as Green Sprangletop and Maximillian Sunflower. Grasses include Little Bluestem and Eastern Gamagrass. Some sedges to look for are Cherokee Sedge and Inland Sea Oats.

Pause here ⊗ at the top of the hill in the southern-most edge of the property and take in a 360 degree panorama of Dallas' skyline, SMU's Georgian campus and the Bush Center.

**9. The Forebay:** This man-made pool allows water from the paved service area and the building to filter here before being released into the park, temporarily detaining the water, slowing down the velocity and allowing sediment to further settle prior to it flowing into the Wet Prairie and the 252,000 gallon unground cistern for irrigation reuse.

**13. The East Prairie and Amphitheater:** The Amphitheater is situated in one of the Post Oak Savannahs. Some of the trees and bushes here are: Bur Oak, Eastern Red Cedar, Pecan, Possumhaw, Texas Mountain Laurel, Cenizo, Mexican Buckeye. The indigenous limestone used here, and throughout the park, is Leuders Limestone from Abilene.

**7. The South Terrace** is not open to the public but continues the use of Texas native plants: Morning Cloud Chitalpa, Eve's Necklace, Dwarf Yaupon Holly, Turk's Cap, Spiderwort and Mealy Blue Sage.

For more information about the park: [www.bushcenter.org/plan-your-visit/native-texas-park](http://www.bushcenter.org/plan-your-visit/native-texas-park)