

# Wilderness Passport

Your Guide to Becoming  
a Nature Explorer!



HOUSTON  
WILDERNESS

*It's Our Nature*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

First

Last

Houston Wilderness ecosystem I live in: \_\_\_\_\_

County

State

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Issued:

Month

Day

Year

Date Completed:

Month

Day

Year

Your picture here



Issuing Authority:

Houston Wilderness



[www.houstonwilderness.org](http://www.houstonwilderness.org)

At Houston Wilderness, we want you to visit and learn about nearby wilderness areas. Did you know that the Houston Wilderness region has 10 different ecosystems?

Each time you visit a different ecosystem, put a sticker on your passport showing that you were there, just like a real passport. To download stickers, please go to [houstonwilderness.org/passport](http://houstonwilderness.org/passport).

For GGQ schools and participants please go to [www.greatgreenquest.org](http://www.greatgreenquest.org)

## Ecoregions

Estuaries & Bays

**Bayou Wilderness**

Prairie Systems

**Trinity Bottomlands**

**Big Thicket**

**Piney Woods**

**Columbia Bottomlands**

**Coastal Marshes**

**Post Oak Savannah**

**Gulf of Mexico**

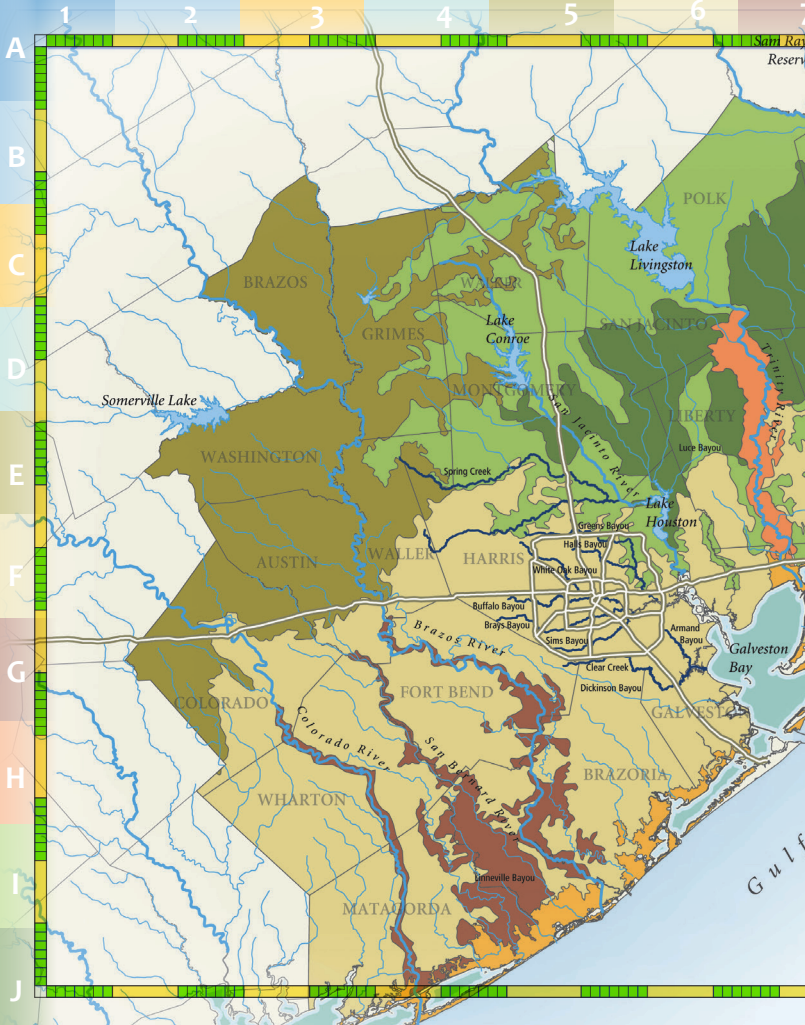


*We're Mari and Hoppi and we'll be your guides!*



Also throughout this passport you will find out the answers to these and other questions:

- What is the longest river that begins and ends in Texas?
- How many birds pass through the Columbia Bottomlands every year?
- What is the Attwater's Prairie Chicken and what does "endangered" mean?





# My Ecoregions Map

- Estuaries & Bays
- Bayou Wilderness
- Prairie Systems
- Trinity Bottomlands
- Big Thicket
- Piney Woods
- Columbia Bottomlands
- Coastal Marshes
- Post Oak Savannah
- Gulf of Mexico

Next to each site is a letter (A-J) and a number (1-10). Refer to this map to get a general idea of where the site is located in the Greater Houston Area. Use the letters to go laterally across the map and then the number to go longitudinally.

## My Discoveries

The coolest thing I saw: \_\_\_\_\_

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The weirdest thing I saw: \_\_\_\_\_

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Something I did not know before: \_\_\_\_\_

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Best part of my visit: \_\_\_\_\_

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Did you know that **Sea Center Texas** has a “touch tank?” You can gently feel blue crabs, hermit crabs, stone crabs, snails, and even anemones.

**My favorite thing I saw or did:**



# Estuaries and Bays



Insert  
Sticker  
Here

Marc Reid

You've heard of nurseries for babies – well, the marshes along the Texas gulf coast provide a nursery area for young fish and shellfish. Where freshwater from rivers meets saltwater from the Gulf of Mexico, you can find an amazing diversity of animals, from fish and oysters to shrimp and blue crabs.

Did you know that 90 percent of the commercial fish and shellfish caught in Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico spend at least part of their lives in an estuary? Can you draw a food web that includes organisms that live in bays and estuaries?



## Estuaries and Bays sites to visit:

- 1 Artist Boat (H-7)** ■ • (409) 770-0722  
2627 Avenue O Galveston, TX 77550  
[www.artistboat.org/](http://www.artistboat.org/)

- 2 Galveston Island State Park (H-6)** ■ • (409) 737-1222  
**“Bay Side”**  
14901 FM 3005 Galveston, TX 77554  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/galveston-island](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/galveston-island)

- 3 Texas State Marine Center (J-3)** ■ • (361) 972-3774  
102 Marine Center Drive Palacios, TX 77465  
<http://palaciosisd.fesdev.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Texas%20State%20Marine%20Education%20Center>

- 4 Pine Gully Park (G-6)** ■ • (281) 291-5713  
605 Pine Gully Road Seabrook, TX 77586  
[seabrooktx.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/12](http://seabrooktx.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/12)



Did you know that Galveston Bay is the second most productive estuary in the country? You can visit this unique ecosystem at **Galveston Island State Park “Bay Side”** and see many animals including birds, fish, and marsh rabbits.

# Bayou Wilderness



Cliff Meinhardt

The brown ribbons of water winding through neighborhoods and along city streets may look dirty, but they're actually carrying sand, soil and nutrients down to their ultimate destination: the bays and estuaries.

These waterways also have a number of creatures in them (yes, fish do live in these waters) and they provide homes and food sources to many wild creatures, including opossums, raccoons, armadillos and alligators. They also provide a needed wet place for toads and dragonflies that eat millions of mosquitoes!

## Bayou Wilderness sites to visit:

- 1 Armand Bayou (G-6)**  • (281) 474-2551  
**Nature Center**  
8500 Bay Area Blvd. Pasadena, TX 77258  
[www.abnc.org/](http://www.abnc.org/)
- 2 Arthur Storey Park (G-5)**  • (281) 496-2177  
7400 West Sam Houston Pkwy S, Houston, TX 77072  
[www.pct3/parks/storey-park](http://www.pct3/parks/storey-park)
- 3 Buffalo Bayou Park (F-5)**  • (713) 752-0314  
1800-3600 Allen Parkway/Memorial Drive  
[www.buffalobayou.org/](http://www.buffalobayou.org/)
- 4 Eddie V. Gray (F-6)**  • (281) 420-7128  
**Wetlands Center**  
1724 Market Street Baytown, TX 77520  
<http://baytown.org/city-hall/departments/parks-recreation/eddie-v-gray-wetlands-education-center>



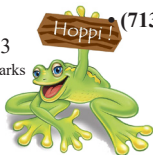
Did you know that the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center participates in the **Texas Amphibian Watch**? This program is used to **count the number of frogs and toads** in Texas. Volunteers are trained to listen to amphibian calls and record them.

## Bayou Wilderness sites to visit:

- 5 Edith L. Moore (F-7)**  • (713) 932-1639  
**Nature Sanctuary**  
440 Wilchester Blvd, Houston, TX 77079  
<http://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/edith-moore/edith-moore.html>
- 6 Houston Arboretum (F-5)**  • (713) 681-8433  
**& Nature Center**  
4501 Woodway Dr, Houston, TX 77024  
<http://houstonarboretum.org/>
- 7 Jesse H. Jones Park (E-5)**  • (281) 446-8588  
**& Nature Center**  
20634 Kenswick Drive Humble, TX 77338  
[www.hcp4.net/jones/](http://www.hcp4.net/jones/)
- 8 Keith Wiess Park (F-5)**  • (832) 395-7000  
12300 Aldine Westfield Rd. Houston, TX 77093  
[www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/keithwiesspark.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/keithwiesspark.html)
- 9 MacGregor Park (G-5)**  • (713) 747-8650  
5225 Calhoun Houston, Texas 77021  
[www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/macgregorpark.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/macgregorpark.html)
- 10 Mason Park (G-6)**  • (713) 928-7055  
541 South 75th Street Houston, Texas 77023  
[www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/masonpark.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/masonpark.html)

## Bayou Wilderness sites to visit:

- 11 Mercer Arboretum (E-5)** ■ • (281) 274-4160  
& Botanic Gardens  
22306 Aldine Westfield Road Humble, TX 77338  
[www.hcp4.net/mercer/](http://www.hcp4.net/mercer/)
- 12 Memorial Park (F-5)** ■ • (713) 863-8403  
6501 Memorial Drive Houston, TX 77007  
[www.memorialparkconservancy.org/visit-memorial-park.html](http://www.memorialparkconservancy.org/visit-memorial-park.html)
- 13 Sims Bayou Urban (G-6)** ■ • (713) 640-2407  
Nature Center  
3997 River Drive Houston, TX 77017  
<http://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/sims-bayou.html>
- 14 Shangri La Botanical (E-9)** ■ • (409) 670-9113  
Gardens & Nature Center  
2111 West Park Avenue Orange, Texas 77630  
[starkculturalvenues.org/shangrilagardens/](http://starkculturalvenues.org/shangrilagardens/)
- 15 Terry Hershey Park (F-5)** ■ • (281) 496-2177  
15200 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX  
[www.terryhersheypark.org](http://www.terryhersheypark.org)
- 16 Tony Marron Park (G-5)** ■ • (713) 752-0314  
808 N. York Street Houston, Texas 77003  
[www.buffalobayou.org/visit/destination/neighborng-parks](http://www.buffalobayou.org/visit/destination/neighborng-parks)



# Prairies



Did you know that the Houston area used to be home to many bison and tallgrasses? When settlers arrived, most of Houston had prairie grasses taller than a 6-foot person. Today, less than 1 percent of the original coastal prairie still exists. These areas are very important to migrating birds and are home to more than 1,000 plant species, including big bluestem and little bluestem. Can you see the blue in little bluestem?

Can you describe the relationship between the Native Americans and the bison?

## Prairies sites to visit:

- 1 Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR (G-3)** ■ • (979) 234-3021  
FM 3013 Eagle Lake, TX 77434  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/Attwater\\_Prairie\\_Chicken/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Attwater_Prairie_Chicken/)
- 2 George Ranch Historical Park (G-5)** ■ • (281) 343-0218  
10215 FM 762 Richmond, TX 77406-1248  
<http://www.georgeranch.org>
- 3 Texas City Prairie Preserve (H-6)** ■ • (409) 941-9114  
4702 Highway 146 North Texas City, TX 77590  
[www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/usa/texas/placesweprotect/texas-city-prairie-preserve.xml](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/usa/texas/placesweprotect/texas-city-prairie-preserve.xml)
- 4 Katy Prairie Conservancy Wildlife (E-4)** ■ • (713) 523-6145  
Matt Cook Memorial Wildlife Viewing Platform, Warren Ranch Rd., Hockley, TX, [www.katyprairie.org/warren-ranch/#MattCook](http://www.katyprairie.org/warren-ranch/#MattCook)  
Site 100 on Upper TX Coast Birding,  
Trail - west of Nelson Farm Preserve 28411 Sharp Road Katy, TX
- 5 Sheldon Lake State Park (F-6)** ■ • (281) 456-2800  
14140 Garrett Rd. Houston, TX 77044  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/sheldon-lake](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/sheldon-lake)



Did you know that pocket prairies are popping up in Houston's urban core? The **M.D. Anderson Pocket Prairie** in the Texas Medical Center (TMC) provides an excellent wildlife habitat in the city and also presents educational and recreational opportunities that benefit patients and visitors of the TMC.

# Trinity Bottomlands



The Trinity River area is home to many large hardwood trees, including cypress and tupelo. These trees act as a very important flood buffer. When rains make the Trinity River grow wider, this area absorbs the floods, holding back water with the roots of the trees and plants that grow along its shores.

Did you know that cypress trees have adaptive features called “knees”? Can you think of ways “knees” might help the tree survive?



## Trinity Bottomlands sites to visit:

- 1 Trinity River (E-7)  
National Wildlife Refuge** ■  
601 FM 1011 Liberty, TX 77575  
Coordinates: (30.098288, -94.765547)  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/trinity\\_river/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/trinity_river/)

• (936) 336-9786

- 2 USACE Wallisville** ■  
**Lake Project (F-7)**  
FM 563 Wallisville, TX 77597-0036  
[www.swg.usace.army.mil/Locations/WallisvilleLakeProjectOffice.aspx](http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Locations/WallisvilleLakeProjectOffice.aspx)

• (409) 389-2285



Did you know that **half of all the bird species** identified in the United States live in or migrate through the Trinity and Columbia Bottomlands?

# Big Thicket



Kathy Adams Clark

In the thick, green woods known as the Big Thicket, you can find orchids and insect-eating plants! The Big Thicket is a fragile ecosystem where Southeastern swamp meets Eastern hardwood forest, Midwestern prairie and elements of the Southwestern desert landscape. The diversity of plants here attracts many migrating songbirds.

Can you name four kinds of insect-eating plants found in the Big Thicket? What sorts of trees provide the best habitat for songbirds?

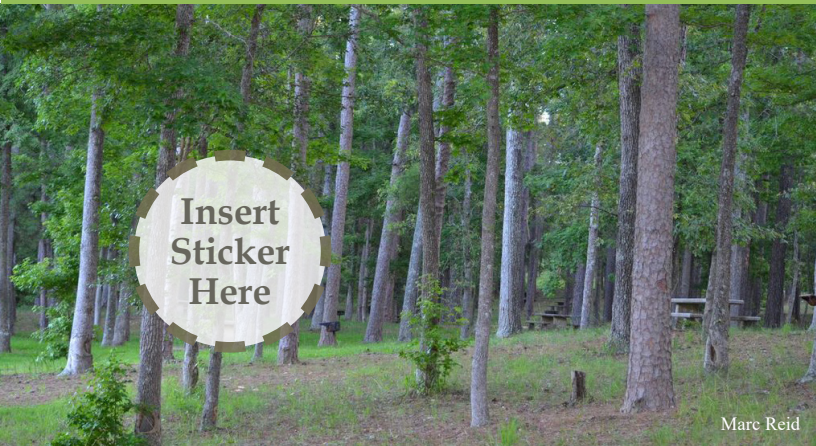
## Big Thicket sites to visit:

- 1 Big Thicket**  • (409) 951-6700  
**National Preserve (D-8)**  
6102 FM 420 Kountze, TX 77625  
[www.nps.gov/bith/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/bith/index.htm)
- 2 Martin Dies, Jr. State Park (B-8)**  • (409) 384-5231  
634 Private Road 5025 Jasper, TX 75951  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/martin-dies-jr](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/martin-dies-jr)
- 3 Village Creek State Park (D-8)**  • (409) 755-7322  
US 96 Lumberton, TX 77657  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/village-creek](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/village-creek)
- 4 Lake Creek Preserve (E-5)**  • (281) 576-1634  
Sendera Ranch Dr, Montgomery, TX 77316  
<http://lakecreektx.org/>



Did you know that **Big Thicket National Preserve** has over 45 miles of hiking trails? Did you also know that along these trails live several species of **carnivorous plants**? But don't worry, these plants prefer insects to humans!

# Piney Woods



The Piney Woods are named for loblolly, shortleaf and longleaf pines. Mostly found in East Texas, these trees stretch all the way west to Montgomery County, just north of Houston. Longleaf pines were almost lost due to logging and lack of fire, but thanks to new forestry methods, they will hopefully make a return.

How does the use of controlled fires help longleaf pines grow back? How does fire affect the other organisms in this ecosystem?

## Piney Woods sites to visit:

- 1 Lake Houston Wilderness Park (E-6)** ■ • (281) 399-8464  
22031 Baptist Encampment Road New Caney TX 77357-7731  
[www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/lakehoustonpark.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/parksites/lakehoustonpark.html)
- 2 W. Goodrich Jones State Forest (E-5)** ■ • (936) 273-2261  
1328 FM 1488 Road Conroe, TX 77384  
[texasforests.tamu.edu/jones-state-forest/](http://texasforests.tamu.edu/jones-state-forest/)
- 3 Lake Livingston State Park (C-6)** ■ • (936) 365-2201  
300 Park Road 65 Livingston, TX 77351  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-livingston](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-livingston)
- 4 Huntsville State Park (C-5)** ■ • (936) 295-5644  
Park Road 39 Huntsville, TX 77342-0508  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/huntsville](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/huntsville)
- 5 Montgomery County Preserve (E-5)** ■ • (281) 353-8100  
1118 Pruitt Road Spring, TX 77380  
[www.springcreekgreenway.org/mcp.htm](http://www.springcreekgreenway.org/mcp.htm)
- 6 Sam Houston National Forest (C-5)** ■ • (936) 344-6205  
394 FM 1375 West New Waverly, TX 77358  
[www.fs.usda.gov/detail/texas/about-forest/districts/?cid=fswwdev3\\_008443](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/texas/about-forest/districts/?cid=fswwdev3_008443)



Did you know that the **endangered red-cockaded woodpecker** is the only American bird to carve out its nesting cavity in a living pine tree? Red-cockaded woodpeckers prefer to nest in **longleaf pines** over 100 years old, but will adapt to other pine species.

# Columbia Bottomlands



Linda Shead

Every year, almost 30 million migratory birds stop in this area along the Brazos, Colorado and San Bernard rivers. The old trees in these wet, low-lying and insect-rich forests help provide rest and food for the birds.

Did you know that the Colorado River flows almost 900 river miles and drops roughly 3,000 feet from the river's origin in Dawson County to Matagorda Bay? It is the longest river that has its entire course in Texas. Can you trace the length of the Colorado River on a map?

## Columbia Bottomlands sites to visit:

- 1 Bates M. Allen Park (H-4)**  • (281) 835-9419  
630 Charlie Roberts Ln, Kendleton, TX 77451  
[www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/index.aspx?page=381](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/index.aspx?page=381)
- 2 Brazos Bend State Park (G-5)**  • (979) 553-5101  
21901 FM 762 Needville, TX 77461  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/brazos-bend](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/brazos-bend)
- 3 Matagorda County (I-4)**  • (979) 245-3336  
**Birding Nature Center**  
1025 State Highway 35 S Bay City, TX 77414  
[www.mcbnc.org/](http://www.mcbnc.org/)
- 4 San Bernard (J-5)**  • (979) 964-3639  
**National Wildlife Refuge**  
6801 CR 306 Brazoria, TX 77515  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/san\\_bernard/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/san_bernard/)
- 5 Seabourne Creek Nature Park (G-5)**  • (832) 595-3960  
3831 State Highway 36 Rosenberg, Texas  
<http://rosenbergtexas.gov/seabourne-creek/>



Did you know that the number of birds stopping in the Columbia Bottomlands is so large that **they can be seen on radar** when they fly across the Gulf of Mexico?

# Coastal Marshes



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Sticker  
Here


Marc Reid

Coastal marshes act as important sponges, helping slow and absorb storm surges (when wind and rain increase) that might otherwise do greater damage farther inland. Coastal marsh wetlands also act as filters, as the plants and soils found there clean the water of sediment and pollutants.

Can you name five organisms you might find in a coastal marsh? What special adaptations do they have for living in this ecosystem?



## Coastal Marshes sites to visit:

- 1** **Anahuac National (G-8) Wildlife Refuge**  • (409) 267-3337

FM 1985 Anahuac, TX 77514  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/Anahuac/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Anahuac/)

- 2** **Brazoria National (I-6) Wildlife Refuge**  • (979) 964-4011


County Road 227 Freeport, TX 77541  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/brazoria](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/brazoria)

- 3** **East End Lagoon (H-7)**  • (409) 797-5000

On Galveston Island at the east end of Seawall Blvd.  
along Boddecker Dr. adjacent to Appfel Park (East Beach)  
[www.eastendlagoon.org/about/](http://www.eastendlagoon.org/about/)

- 4** **San Jacinto (F-6) Battleground State Park**  • (281) 479-2431

3523 Independence Parkway South LaPorte, TX 77571 (TX Hwy 134)  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/san-jacinto-battleground](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/san-jacinto-battleground)

- 5** **Sea Rim State Park (G-9)**  • (409) 971-2559

19335 S. Gulfway Drive Sabine Pass, TX 77665  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/sea-rim](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/sea-rim)



Did you know that Southeast Texas is one of the best places for **alligator viewing**? At **Anahuac NWR** you can often see the alligators sunning themselves on the banks of the bayous and ponds!



# Post Oak Savannah



The Post Oak Savannah is a land of mostly grassy areas with clumps of post oak trees scattered throughout. In the past, fire was an important part of the ecosystem, where it would burn before being stopped by either a change in topography or the weather. The post oaks would survive even if wildfires destroyed the grasses, leaving clumps of trees on the grassy plains.

The Post Oak Savannah is home to many animals, including wild turkeys, red-tailed hawks, white-tailed deer and coyotes. What are some of the ways that wild turkeys get water in this ecosystem?

## Post Oak Savannah sites to visit:

- 1 Stephen F. Austin**  **State Park (F-3)** • (979) 885-3613  
Park Road 38 San Felipe TX 77473-0125  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/stephen-f-austin](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/stephen-f-austin)
- 2 Washington-on-the-Brazos (E-3)**  **State Park** • (936) 878-2214  
23200 Park Road 12 Washington, TX 77880  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/washington-on-the-brazos](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/washington-on-the-brazos)



Did you know that Post Oaks can grow to be 300 years old? There have even been some Post Oaks found that were over **400 years old!**

# Gulf of Mexico



Insert  
Sticker  
Here

Kathy Adams Clark

Surrounded by the United States, Mexico and Cuba, the Gulf of Mexico is more than half a million square miles of warm, sunlit waters and a steady food supply for an array of fish, wildlife and humans alike. About two-thirds of the continental United States drains into the Gulf, including states as far away as Montana and New York.

The Gulf of Mexico is the ninth largest body of water in the world and home to unique coral reef ecosystems, including the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, about 100 miles from the coast of Galveston.

## Gulf of Mexico sites to visit:

- 1 Sea Center Texas (H-5)**  • (979) 292-0100  
300 Medical Drive Lake Jackson, TX 77566  
[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/seacenter/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/seacenter/)
- 2 Matagorda Bay Nature Park (J-4)**  • (979) 863-2603  
6420 FM 2031 Matagorda, TX 77457  
[www.lcra.org/parks/developed\\_parks/matagorda.html](http://www.lcra.org/parks/developed_parks/matagorda.html)
- 3 Galveston Island State Park**  • (409) 737-1222  
**“Gulf Side” (H-6)**  
14901 FM 3005, Galveston, TX, 77554  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/galveston-island](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/galveston-island)
- 4 Houston Audubon’s Bolivar**  • (713) 932-1639  
**Flats Bird Sanctuary (G-7)**  
For directions visit:  
<http://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/bolivar-flats/>



Did you know that the Gulf Stream, which originates in the Gulf of Mexico, is **one of the strongest ocean currents on earth**? The stream exits the Gulf through the Strait of Florida, follows the eastern coastline of the United States and crosses the Atlantic Ocean to Europe and Africa.

# Other Places to Explore



Alexandra Marler

The Houston Wilderness region has a rich, vibrant history that can be explored and learned about at a variety of museums and cultural centers throughout the 10 ecoregions. Discovering the roles that nature plays in the decisions our ancestors made can be fascinating and rewarding. Many of the “Other Places to Explore” sites offer special exhibits and programs that provide excellent learning opportunities for people of all ages.

## Other Places to Explore:

- 1 Bellaire Nature Discovery Center** ■ • (713) 667-6550  
7112 Newcastle Bellaire, TX 77401  
[www.naturediscoverycenter.org/](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/)
- 2 Brazos Valley Museum (C-2)** ■ • (979) 776-2195  
**of Natural History**  
3232 Briarcrest Drive Bryan, TX 77802  
[www.brazosvalleymuseum.org/](http://www.brazosvalleymuseum.org/)
- 3 Center for the Arts** ■ • (979) 265-7661  
**& Sciences (G-5)**  
Brazoria County 400 College Blvd Clute, TX 77531  
[www.bcfas.org/](http://www.bcfas.org/)
- 4 Children's Museum** ■ • (713) 522-1138  
**of Houston (G-5)**  
1500 Binz Houston, TX 77004  
[www.cmhouston.org/](http://www.cmhouston.org/)



Museums and Zoos can be good places to learn about ecosystems locally and around the world. A breeding program at the Houston Zoo is working to save the **Attwater's Prairie Chicken** from extinction.

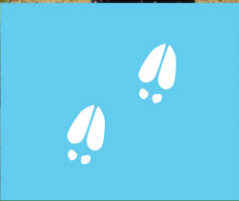
## Other Places to Explore:

- 5** **Discovery Green**  • (713) 400-7336  
1500 McKinney Houston, TX 77010  
[www.discoverygreen.com/](http://www.discoverygreen.com/)
- 6** **Hermann Park (I-5)**  • (713) 524-5876  
6100 Hermann Park Drive, Houston TX 77030  
[www.hermannpark.org/](http://www.hermannpark.org/)
- 7** **Houston Museum (G-5)**  • (713) 639-4629  
**of Natural Science**  
One Hermann Circle Drive Houston, TX 77030  
[www.hmns.org/](http://www.hmns.org/)
- 8** **Houston Zoo (G-5)**  • (713) 533-6500  
6200 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030  
[www.houstonzoo.org/](http://www.houstonzoo.org/)
- 9** **Museum of the Gulf Coast (F-9)**  • (409) 982-7000  
700 Procter Port Arthur, TX 77640  
[www.museumofthegulfcoast.org](http://www.museumofthegulfcoast.org)
- 10** **Nature Discovery Center**  **(G-5)** • (713) 667-6550  
7112 Newcastle Bellaire, TX 77401  
[www.naturediscoverycenter.org/](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/)





# FAMILY FUN: EXPLORE, PLAY, ENJOY AND... REPEAT!



Check out the Family Nature Club at [houstonzoo.org](http://houstonzoo.org) for more information

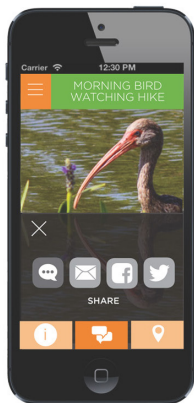




# Great Green Quest

Plan on a summer of adventure and fun by joining the Great Green Quest! It's a friendly challenge for families, schools, nature lovers, and outdoor enthusiasts to visit all ten ecoregions over the summer.

For more information, or if you would like to become a sponsor for an area school, please visit [greatgreenquest.org](http://greatgreenquest.org) or [houstonwilderness.org/ggq](http://houstonwilderness.org/ggq)



## **Get Outdoors Houston**

**Download the mobile friendly app today!**

Get Out Here is a website and corresponding phone App designed as a portal into the fun and exciting outdoor adventures throughout the Houston Gulf Coast region. There are many events happening every week in Houston to help you get outside and engaged in different parts of the 10 ecoregions in and around the Houston area. Go to the site below to find what, where, and when events and outdoor activities are taking place.

**[Getoutherehouston.org](http://Getoutherehouston.org)**

## HOUSTON WILDERNESS

is a broad-based alliance of business, environmental and government interests that acts in concert to protect, preserve and promote the unique biodiversity of the region's precious remaining ecological capital from bottomland hardwoods and prairie grasslands to pine forests and wetlands.

This mission is accomplished through  
Convening various groups to promote protect and preserve the biodiversity in our 10 ecoregions; providing collaborative Problem-solving opportunities on critical environmental issues; and Educating the public on the many exciting outdoor opportunities in the Greater Houston Region and the health benefits associated with nature. These ecoregion landscapes decrease repetitive flooding, improve water quality boost outdoor recreation, ecotourism and economic growth.

[www.houstonwilderness.org](http://www.houstonwilderness.org)



HOUSTON  
WILDERNESS

*It's Our Nature*