

Denton County Gardens & Parks

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[DR. BETTYE MYERS BUTTERFLY GARDEN](#)

304 Pioneer Circle
Denton, Tx 76204

This native plant butterfly garden project was designed to attract and sustain monarchs and many other butterflies, bees and birds. Designated as a Monarch Waystation, the butterfly garden boasts a lovely variety of flowers, including coneflowers (bachelor buttons), poppies, evening primrose, larkspur, phlox, gerbera daisy, and cornflowers. Phase I is located on the south end of the Ann Stuart Science Complex, find Phase II of this garden by the Little Chapel in-the-Woods and enjoy the Carroll Abbott Wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary is a section of the garden dedicated to the memory of Carroll Abbott.

[BEULAH ACRES](#)

7801 S I-35 E, Corinth, TX 76210
940-382-7231

Beulah Acres Center (BAC) is a creative learning center operating in conjunction with the Israel Prayer Garden and Global Spheres Center in Corinth, Texas. Our goal is to provide a venue for people in the church and the community in which we live to explore, discover, and pursue their creative interests and talents. Whether you are interested in gardening, fine arts, photography, pottery, or various other enrichment endeavors, we are here to serve you with low cost (and sometimes no cost) opportunities for learning something new.

Mission

Provide low- or no-cost learning opportunities to our church and community in the arts, gardening, nutrition, photography, and food preservation and preparation.

Host local artists, craftsmen, farmers, and cottage industrialists at quarterly markets and seasonal festivals.

Provide meeting space for approved educational activities (such as Denton County Master Gardener trainings, Denton Parks and Recreation children's camps, artist groups, etc.).

Serve as the interface between the Israel Prayer Garden/Beulah Acres Community Garden and the surrounding community.

[BOB JONES NATURE CENTER & PRESERVE](#)

355 E. Bob Jones Rd
Southlake, Texas 76092
Phone: (817) 748-8019
bjncp@cityofsouthlake.com

Amenities include:

Benches and picnic tables
ADA Accessible
Porta Potty Available
Water fountain

The Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve is surrounded by almost 758 acres of Cross Timbers habitat with over 20 miles of hiking trails available on the Nature Center grounds and on or near the Walnut Grove National Recreation Trail. Visit the Nature Center and walk along the Bluebird Trail or use the Nature Center as the entry point to miles of the Walnut Grove National Recreation Trail (U.S. Army Corps of Engineer land) which surrounds the Preserve. The Walnut Grove National Recreation Trail is

also accessible at several points along White Chapel Boulevard and near the end of E. Bob Jones Road.

Hikers remember to wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the season and to always bring water.

The Cross Timbers ecosystem consists of a swath of trees and prairie land stretching from present-day Kansas and Oklahoma and to just north of Waco, Texas along the Brazos River. The region represents a boundary between the forests of eastern North America and the southern Great Plains. The Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve is located in the eastern band of the Texas Cross Timbers which consists of two parallel strips of forest region extending southward from Oklahoma into Texas.

Please be aware that while we do love your furry dog friends they are not currently allowed at the Nature Center and Preserve.

BOWLING GREEN PARK AND COMMUNITY GARDEN

Park Playground Community Garden & Orchard
2200 Bowling Green St.
Denton, Tx
(940) 349-7275

Hours: closes at 10 pm
18-acre, neighborhood park and community garden

Amenities include:

Playground and swing set
Benches and picnic tables
Community garden
Small fruit orchard
Partial ADA accessible
No bathrooms
Water fountain

For garden plot rentals please call to secure your spot before it's too late. Call (940) 349-7275 or visit us at Denton Civic Center, 321 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX.

Community Garden Timeline

Current plots will be cleared by mid-December
New plot allocations will be released to gardeners for gardening in early February
Water to the garden will be turned on mid-March
Prior to planting, we'll mow and till the garden site.

Plot Sizes and Fee

15' x 15' or 11' x 20'
\$20 per plot with a limit of two plots per person
Plots will be staked with a plot number on the southwest corner stake

Quick Notes

Watering is allowed daily from 7 a.m to 10 p.m.
Hand watering only; no sprinklers or timers allowed
Annual plants only, i.e., vegetables or flowers
Perennial and tree plantings are prohibited
We comply with the current Integrated Pest Management (IPM) guidelines; therefore, the use of glyphosate products is prohibited. Glyphosate is the active ingredient in products such as Roundup, Rodeo Aquatic Herbicide, and Eraser.

FRUIT ORCHARD

Peaches; Red Globe and Harvester
Pears; Moonglow and Orient
Apples; Mollies Delicious and Gala
Pomegranates; Spanish Sweet and Salavatski
Plums; Methley and Bruce
Aprium; Flavor Delight

CLEAR CREEK NATURAL HERITAGE CENTER

3310 Collins Rd – (Hard to find but worth it)
Denton, TX 76208
940-349-7275
Open daily 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Admission is free

Please stay on the trails at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center. Visitors are prohibited from creating new trails or removing vegetation from the property. This includes foraging or taking items from the property.

Amenities include:

Beautiful forest, creek, meadows, marshlands
Good place for birding and seeing other wildlife
Catch a delightful view of nature in spring and fall
Hiking/biking
Partial ADA accessible

The mission of CCNHC is to inspire environmental citizenship through an understanding of the natural heritage of north central Texas by providing nature experiences, education and research programs, and conservation and restoration projects.

Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center is a gateway to more than 2,900 acres of bottomland hardwood forest, upland prairie, and diverse aquatic habitats. Located within Lake Lewisville's upper floodplain and managed by the City of Denton, it provides residents and visitors with unmatched ecological, educational, and recreational opportunities.

Clear Creek Natural Heritage Area includes the confluence of Clear Creek and the Elm Fork of the Trinity River and was originally established to protect and restore rare bottomland and upland prairie ecosystems. The City leases the land from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and is responsible for operation and maintenance of Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center.

Hike the Trails at Clear Creek

Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center features more than 10 miles of family-friendly hiking trails through diverse habitats. Fisherman's Trail winds along Clear Creek to the Elm Fork confluence. Wetlands Trail allows visitors to view constructed wetlands with inhabitants such as waterfowl, herons, and beavers. Old Wetlands Road and High Trail wind through thick, majestic bottomland forest. The outer loop of the trails system totals 3.2 miles - perfect for 5K trail runners.

CROSS TIMBERS PARK

Address: 7108 Brisas Ct. Denton, TX 76210
Hours: 24 hours
Phone: (940) 349-7275

A quiet somewhat secluded park with so much to offer, there is something for everyone.

Amenities include:

Playground Equipment
Partial ADA accessible
Snake trail (beware of poison ivy)
Pond/lake/stream with fish and ducks
Native plants/trees
Open fields
Dam
Information Markers on the Unique Eastern Cross Timbers Region
Eastern Cross Timbers ecosystem (forest interspersed with prairies, sandy soil, underbrush and briars)
Prairie Systems
Woodland Plants
Cross Timbers Nature Trail
Trail leads to duck pond
PAVED and unpaved trails
Dogs on leash only
Gazebo
No Restrooms/benches

DOUBLE TREE RANCH PARK

310 Highland Village Road
Highland Village, TX 75077

Doubletree Ranch Park has a one-mile walking trail, a stocked fishing pond, and a dedicated wildflower area. There are open areas to enjoy a family picnic in the pavilion, under the trees or on grand lawn; grills are available. During warm weather, children can play in the splash pad, take in a soccer game and enjoy snacks from the concession stand. On site is a Denton Master Gardener landscape project worked in conjunction with the Highland Village Parks and Recreation Department that features native plants, colorful flowers and a butterfly area.

FLOWER MOUND FIRST BAPTIST (FMFB) COMMUNITY GARDEN

1901 Timber Creek Rd, Flower Mound, TX 75028
Phone: (972) 539-0641
Email for more information: social@fmfb.church
Hours: dawn to dusk

FMFB goal is to re-connect people with the joy of growing their own food. The garden is open to community members to tour. Volunteers are welcome. For more information, please contact us by email at: social@fmfb.church

Amenities include:

Beautiful garden whose main mission is to provide food to community pantries
No facilities
Partial ADA accessible
Volunteers meet weekly on Thursdays 8am – 12:00 during the growing season

GRAPEVINE BOTANICAL GARDENS at Heritage Park

411 Ball Street Grapevine, Texas
Hours of Operation:
Dawn to Dusk, 365 days a year
Cost: Free

Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park is a beautiful park with trails, streams, ponds, sitting areas and hundreds of plants to see. This garden really is a hidden gem in Grapevine that does not get

the appreciation it deserves.

Amenities include:

Walking trails
Sitting areas
Partial ADA accessible
Pond stocked with fish for viewing
Butterfly sanctuary
Beautiful flowers and landscaping
Plenty of trees
Plenty of green space and natural beauty

LEWISVILLE LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING AREA (LLELA)

201 E. Jones St (corner of Jones & Kealy Streets)

Lewisville, Tx 75057

Mon.-Fri. 972-219-3550

Sat.-Sun. 469-635-5483

LLELA is open 7 days/week

Summer hours: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. (March 1-October 31)

Winter hours: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. (November 1-February 28)

No entry later than 30 minutes before closing time.

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Open all other holidays.

LLELA Vision – To heal the land and restore the bond between people and nature, ensuring the preservation of our natural heritage for the future.

LLELA's Mission: To preserve and restore native Texas ecosystems and biodiversity while providing opportunities for environmental education, research, and recreation.

Daily entry is \$5/vehicle (credit only at this time). Annual passes can be purchased online at playlewisville.com. **Note: visitors who use a ride-hailing service (Lyft, Uber, etc.) will need to pay the \$5/vehicle entry fee for their ride to enter the LLELA property.

Bus entry rates: \$20/van or bus with 10-25 passengers, \$30/bus with more than 25 seats.

Habitats

LLELA is fortuitously located where the Black Land Prairies and the Eastern Cross Timbers meet, with the Elm Fork of the Trinity River and its associated riparian forest winding right through the middle of things. This diversity of habitats creates a profusion of wildlife. Mammals such as bobcats, white-tailed deer, and mink can be found, along with birds such as wild turkeys and painted buntings, a wide variety of reptiles and amphibians, and butterflies and other insects. These areas can be explored along LLELA's ever-growing trail system: Prairies, The Pollinator Pocket Prairie, Forests, Wetlands.

Hiking Trails at LLELA:

Bittern March Trail – 2.1 miles

Blackjack Trail – 1.5 miles

Cicada Trail - .03 miles

Cottonwood Loop Trail– 1.3 miles

Green Dragon Trail - .04 miles

Redbud Trail – 1.4 miles

NORTH LAKES PARK WILDFLOWER TRAIL

2201 Windsor Dr.

Denton, TX 76207

During spring/early summer months the trail has beautiful wildflowers.

QUAKERTOWN PARK

700 Oakland St, Denton, TX 76201
(940) 349-7275

Located behind/between - [Denton Civic Center](#), [Denton Senior Center](#), [Civic Center Pool](#), [Emily Fowler Central Library](#), this 32-acre city park with amphitheater/stage, 0.45-acre garden walk area and bridges, playground and swing set, grill, benches and picnic tables, drinking fountain, and security lighting

Hours: daily, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Handicap accessible

Dog friendly

Restrooms/water available in the surrounding buildings during working hours.

Amphitheater and stage coming 2021 – date TBD –

Amenities include:

Walking trails

ADA accessible

Sitting areas

Playground

Benches (8)

Bridges (2)

Creek/stream

Drinking fountain

Dog friendly

Garden walk area (0.45 acres)

Grill

Coming soon The Nook – a performance nook on the south side of Emily Fowler Central Library. The Nook was designed with decomposed granite, river rock, sod and native Texas plants in the landscaping. It will have 4 picnic tables and seating for 50 in a small amphitheatre.

Event area

Picnic tables (42)

Pool

Security lighting

Seasonal flowers

Statuary

History of Quakertown

In the early 1880s, Quakertown emerged as a thriving African American Community in the heart of Denton. Quakertown flourished through 1920, its growth due in part to its location near the city square and the opportunities it provided African Americans. The community was bounded by Withers St. on the North Oakland Ave. on the west, Bell Ave. on the east and by Cottonwood and Pecan Creeks on the south. Although many residents worked for businesses on the nearby city square, at the college of industrial arts (now TWU), and as servants for white household, Quakertown prospered as a self-supporting community. Several churches, a physician's office, lodges, restaurants, and small businesses joined home to line the streets of the community. The neighborhood school, the Fred Douglass School, burned in Sept. 1913 and was rebuilt along Wye St. in southeast Denton in 1916, foreshadowing events to come. More historical information of Quakertown available on the website

<https://dentonhistory.net/page32/Quaker.html>

RAY ROBERTS LAKE STATE PARK

Isle Du Bois Unit, 100 PW 4137

Pilot Point

Johnson Branch Unit, 100 PW 4153
Valley View

Open daily 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.
Online reservations are available.
To reserve by phone call 512-389-8900

Trails, fishing, hiking, biking, boating, horse trails, camping

All levels of difficulty abound in this park. Equestrian trails and camping sites are available. Various restrooms and facilities. Check area map for the perfect day or overnight experience. Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and get back to nature just an hour north of the DFW Metroplex. Come play at Ray Roberts Lake State Park.

SHILOH FIELD COMMUNITY GARDEN

1650 Nottingham Dr,
Denton, TX 76209
Phone: (940) 297-6700

Shiloh is a non-profit garden with a goal of teaching, sharing, learning and volunteering to feed those in need. For tour information please email: cndy_helm@yahoo.com (NO "i" in Cindy)

Amenities include:

Porta Potty
Water

Shiloh Field welcomes and serves the community with 152 individual plots, fruit trees, blackberries, chickens, honey bees, a vineyard, composting and more. We provide fresh produce, eggs and fruit to fourteen different organizations! Volunteers are always needed to help with the various chores of the garden. It's all about feeding those who are hungry.

Volunteers are welcome: Just show up on the days and times we are at the garden! We ask that you wear clothes appropriate for outdoor activities. We provide drinking water.

THE FLOWER MOUND

Farm to Market road (FM) 3040 at the northeast corner of the FM 3040 and FM 2499 intersection, next to Tom Thumb.

A remnant of the original American Black Land Prairie the (almost) 13 acres of preserved prairie rises 650 feet above sea level, and a gentle 50-foot slope walk the top rewards one with a 360-degree view of Dallas, Denton and the surrounding area. This area is worth a visit to view the season blooms of almost 200 wildflower species and many prairie grass species.

UNT'S PECAN CREEK POLLINATIVE PRAIRIE

The University of North Texas Pecan Creek Pollinative Prairie is a native north central Texas tallgrass prairie reconstruction project located on four acres of the east field at the University of North Texas Discovery Park Campus. The mission of the Pollinative Prairie is to increase native north central Texas flora and fauna species on an urban university campus in order to provide an island of prairie habitat and an outdoor laboratory/classroom for any student, staff/faculty, and community member to learn about native land use restoration and conservation. Local, native seed was purchased from Native American Seed, while nursery grown plants were either grown by UNT students or purchased from the Painted Flower Farm. For more information, visit <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/we-mean-green-fund/projects/pollinative-prairie>.

The prairie can be visited by appointment ONLY.

To visit please contact Dr. Jaime Baxter-Slye at slye@unt.edu.

Amenities include:

No Porta Potty; closest restroom is about ¼ mile away

Not ADA compliant

No trails (currently seeking funding)

No shade (currently seeking funding for a pavilion)

No water fountains

A visitor's parking pass must be purchased if visiting by appointment.

Area provides native plants, habitats for pollinators such as butterflies and bees.

A four-acre area was designated to provide a space for the university and Denton communities that promote conservation and sustainable urban landscaping, serving as a model for all of us. UNT uses the space for outdoor laboratories and volunteer opportunities.

The Pollinative Prairie has received recognition from Texan By Nature, former First Lady Laura Bush's initiative. It has also been registered with Monarch Watch as a waystation and The Xerces Society Million Pollinator Challenge. The prairie serves as one of several areas for the UNT Bee Campus USA certification USA and The Texas Society for Ecological Restoration.

Since 2016, students, faculty, and staff have documented over 450 species and counting! All observations are documented on the iNaturalist app here: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/university-of-north-texas-pecan-creek-pollinative-prairie>

People who are interested in volunteering at the Prairie can add their names to an email list at <https://prairie.unt.edu> or contact Baxter-Slye at slye@unt.edu.