

Hikes, field trips, tours & iNaturalist challenges are planned & led by Jeff Quayle. Please send an email to squaylei2000@gmail.com or call 817/729-0283 if you plan on attending any hikes or field trips, so he will know who to expect. If there are any changes or a fieldtrip is cancelled, you will be notified.

Use of the iNaturalist app during fieldtrips is also encouraged, so you can contribute valuable data for our state and have your own personal list so you can learn more about what you observe as you go along.

**Blackland Prairie Nature Preserve Field Trip
Saturday, April 1, 2017**

9:00am – 12:00pm
4907 New York Ave
Arlington, TX 76018
Led by Jeff Quayle

Meet at 9:00am at the prairie. We will explore this 10 acre Blackland Prairie remnant, acquired and preserved by the City of Arlington. Here are some of the expected flora at the site: Prairie Bishop (*Bifora americana*), Two Flower Milkvine (*Matelea biflora*), Indian Plantain (*Arnoglossum plantagineum*), Old Plainsman (*Hymenopappus scabiosaeus* var. *corymbosus*), Yellow Star (*Lindheimera texana*), Prairie Groundsel (*Packera plattensis*), Sleepy Catchfly (*Silene antirrhina*), Common St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Sensitive Briar (*Mimosa roemeriana*), Prairie Celestial (*Nemastylis geminiflora*), Trailing Ratany (*Krameria lanceolata*), White Prairie Larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum* ssp. *virescens*), Purple Paintbrush (*Castilleja purpurea*) and Prairie Bluets (*Stenaria nigricans*).

You can view all the iNaturalist observations here: <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/blackland-prairie-nature-preserve>

**Marion Sansom Park iNaturalist Challenge
(City of Fort Worth, at the Lake Worth dam)
Saturday, April 15, 2017**

9:00am – 11:30am
2500 Roberts Cut Off Road
Fort Worth, TX 76114

Join us with your cameras and smartphones to participate in the iNaturalist Challenge, documenting all living species. See link below. This will be a fun competition between DFW, Austin and Houston. This is a great way to learn and discover your prairie plants and document them for iNaturalist, plus you'll have all your observations saved to

continue learning more. Meet at the park pavilion on Roberts Cut Off Road, on the far west side next to Cahoba Dr.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2017-dallas-fort-worth>

Southwest Nature Preserve iNaturalist Challenge

Saturday, April 15, 2017

1:00pm – 4:00pm

5201 Bowman Springs Road

Arlington, TX 76017

Join us with your cameras and smartphones to participate in the iNaturalist Challenge, documenting all living species. See link below. This will be a fun competition between DFW, Austin and Houston. This is a great way to learn and discover your prairie plants and document them for iNaturalist, plus you'll have all your observations saved to continue learning more. Meet at the park entrance in the parking lot.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2017-dallas-fort-worth>

You can view all the iNaturalist observations

here: <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/southwest-nature-preserve>

Chalk Mountain Ranch Field Trip

Saturday, April 22, 2017

8:30am

A Texas Land Conservancy easement – 351 acres

Glen Rose, TX

<http://www.texaslandconservancy.org/lands/properties-list/central-north-texas/131-chalk-mountain-ranch-somervell-county>

Meet at 8:30am in Glen Rose at the Brookshire's parking lot. We will travel from there to stop and see a recently discovered rare plant species for North Texas near Glen Rose. From there, we will head on to Chalk Mountain Ranch. This will be a hike in easy to moderate terrain, up to 2 miles. Please bring plenty of water. It is optional, but the plan afterwards will be to eat at Hammonds BBQ in Glen Rose.

Here's a small sampling of what you might expect to see: Plateau Milk Vine (*Matelea edwardsensis*), Plains Fleabane (*Erigeron modestus*), Gray Golden Aster (*Heterotheca*

canescens), Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia caespitosa* var. *signata*), Slender Greenthread (*Thelesperma simplicifolium*), Pineapple Cactus (*Coryphantha sulcata*), Pink Mimosa (*Mimosa borealis*), Engelmann Sage (*Salvia engelmannii*), Rock Flax (*Linum rupestre*), Thin Leaf Brookweed (*Samolus valerandi* ssp. *parviflorus*) and Gray Vervain (*Verbena canescens*).

Thora Hart Park Hike
Saturday, April 29, 2017

9:00am – 11:00am
3510 W Green Oaks Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76016

Join us for a stroll through this excellent 10 acre example of Eastern Cross Timbers Post Oak and Blackjack woodlands, with scattered prairie openings. The park may look like the typical city owned park from the street, but many treasures can be found in such a small natural area. To date, 678 observations, including 205 plant species, have been made through the iNaturalist app.

You can view all the observations here: <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/survey-of-thora-hart-park-arlington-tx>

Here is a sample of what you might expect to see in April: Silver Evax (*Diaperia candida*), Carolina False Dandelion (*Pyrrhopappus carolinianus*), Venus' Looking Glass (*Triodanis perfoliata*), Rusty Blackhaw (*Viburnum rufidulum*), Western Spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*), Nuttall's Wild Indigo (*Baptisia nuttalliana*), Edible Scurf Pea (*Pediomelum hypogaeum* var. *scaposum*), Bracted Zornia (*Zornia bracteata*), Cut Leaf Evening Primrose (*Oenothera laciniata*), Slender Yellow Woodsorrel (*Oxalis dillenioid*), Wright's Plantain (*Plantago wrightiana*), Hair Grass (*Aira elegans*), Woolly Rosette Grass (*Dichantherium acuminatum*), Engelmann's Dock (*Rumex hastatulus*), Cherry Laurel (*Prunus caroliniana*), Eastern Hercules Club (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*), Toad Flax (*Nuttallanthus canadensis*), Beardtongue (*Penstemon laxiflorus*) and Stinging Nettle (*Urtica chamaedryoides*).

Fossil Hill Hike @ Lake Amon Carter (south of Bowie) Field Trip
Saturday, May 6, 2017

8:30am – 2:00pm

***RSVP REQUIRED!** There is a limit of 20 participants, with a max of 6 cars. 10 spots are already filled by attendees from Elm Fork MN and the Trinity Forks NPSOT, while the remaining 10 spots will be reserved for other groups and individuals. But for all 20

participants, 6 cars are the max on the property at Fossil Hill due to parking limitations. Once you RSVP, Jeff will try to set up carpooling.

Meet at 8:30am in Decatur at the TXDOT rest area, which is approximately 2-3 miles NW of the intersection of Highway 287 & Loop 380.

Please contact Jeff Quayle using one of the methods below. Once you RSVP, you will be emailed a Fossil Hill property description and a plant list.

Email: squaylei2000@gmail.com, Cell: 817-729-0283

Join us on this trip to this excellent example of an ancient Western Cross Timbers Post Oak/Blackjack Oak woodlands, with scattered prairie openings. The topography is hilly, with elevations from 920 feet at the bottom of the hill at the lake during normal pool, to 1050 feet at the top of the hillside.

The soils are mostly developed on Pennsylvanian strata with rocks and gravel at the surface. On slopes and along the ridges lie numerous boulders, carpeted with ferns, mosses and lichens. There are 10 different species of ferns present on the property: Mosquito Fern (*Azolla caroliniana*), Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*), Common Woodsia (*Woodsia obtusa*), Grape Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*), Engelmann's Adder's Tongue (*Ophioglossum engelmannii*), Star Scaled Cloak Fern (*Astrolepis integerrima*), Alabama Lip Fern (*Myriopteris alabamensis*=*Cheilanthes*), Woolly Lip Fern (*Myriopteris tomentosa*=*Cheilanthes*), Purple Cliff Brake (*Pellaea atropurpurea*) and Wright's Cliff Brake (*Pellaea wrightiana*).

LLELA Nursery & Restoration Tour

Saturday, May 13, 2017

9:00am – 1:00pm

Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area (LLELA)

Lewisville, TX

<http://llela.unt.edu/>

We will start at 9:00am with a tour of the nursery, then afterwards we will walk out to the prairie for a talk on their restoration practices. Meet at the Blackjack Trailhead parking lot.

Skip Barnett Ranch Field Trip

Saturday, May 20, 2017

9:00am – 1:00pm

Western Denton Co. (bordering Denton and Wise Co.)
13813 N. County Line Rd.
Ponder, TX 76359

We will visit the Skip Barnett Ranch, which has been in family ownership since 1888. Located about 15 miles west of Denton and just north of Loop 380, this 1200-acre ranch has run a cattle operation in the heart of the growth center of the DFW metroplex.

<http://connemaraconservancy.org/wordpress/profile-barnett-ranch/>

We will meet at 9:00am at the oil well pad site, which is located a half (0.5) mile north of Loop 380 on County Line Rd.

Once you RSVP, you will be emailed any handouts made available by email.

Ray Roberts Lake State Park - Isle du Bois Unit Field Trip

Saturday, May 27, 2017

9:00am – 1:00pm

100 PW 4137

Pilot Point, TX 76258

South side of Ray Roberts Lake

Meet at 9:00 inside the entrance at the parking lot. A \$7.00 entrance fee applies.

Join us for a unique look at one of the Metroplex's most diverse habitats, where an ecotone between the Eastern Cross Timbers, the Blackland Prairie and the Fort Worth Prairie support uncommon and rare plant communities. There are many species present here which extend out of the Blackland Prairie to the east, and from sandy alfisol prairies to the northeast.

Here is an assortment of the flora of Isle du Bois Unit: Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), Dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*), Side Cluster Milkweed (*Asclepias oenotheroides*), Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*), Lanceleaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), Pale Coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*), Ashy Sunflower (*Helianthus mollis*), Rough Coneflower (*Liatris aspera*), Kansas Gayfeather (*Liatris pycnostachya*), Seep Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia caespitosa* var. *caespitosa*), Giant Coneflower (*Rudbeckia maxima*), Compass Plant (*Silphium laciniatum*), Rough Stem Rosenweed (*Silphium radula*), Gravelweed Crownbeard (*Verbesina helianthoides*), Bejar Marbleseed (*Onosmodium bejariense*), Sicklepod (*Borodinia canadensis*=*Arabis*), Georgia Sunrose (*Helianthemum georgianum*), Spotted St. John's Wort (*Hypericum punctatum*), Plains Wild Indigo (*Baptisia bracteata*), Nuttall's Wild Indigo (*Baptisia nuttalliana*), Yellow Bush Pea (*Baptisia sphaerocarpa*), White Prairie Clover (*Dalea candida* var. *candida*),

Narrowleaf Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*), Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*), Pink Milkwort (*Polygala incarnata*) and Tube Penstemon (*Penstemon tubiflorus*).

You can view all the iNaturalist observations here: <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/ray-roberts-lake-state-park-texas-parks-and-wildlife>