

Tropical Paradise

Palmetto State Park offers a nature-filled getaway in Central Texas.



SIGHTS & SOUNDS

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE TV AND RADIO



TELEVISION

LOOK FOR THESE STORIES IN THE COMING WEEKS:

Sept. 28-Oct. 4: Beneath the surface of Texas; restoring coastal prairies; Lake Livingston State Park; deer feeding in a field.

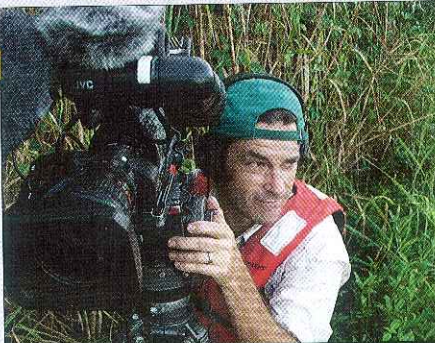
Oct. 5-11: Effluent water is for the birds; tree stand safety; water reflections in black & white; bald eagles recover; Bastrop's Johnny Appleseed.

Oct. 12-18: San Marcos to Seadrift

paddling race; discover birding with Father Tom; stone skipping competition.

Oct. 19-25: Tracking whooping cranes; Winston 8 woods conservation; game warden water training; Caddo rain; state park volunteers.

Oct. 26-Nov. 1: Prehistoric paddlefish; Sky Lewey profile; San Jacinto archeology; biking McKinney Falls.



A new season of Texas Parks & Wildlife begins the week of Oct. 19-25.

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

Winner of 12 Emmy Awards, our television series is broadcast throughout Texas on local PBS affiliates. In stereo with closed captions.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tv



RADIO

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Imagine a Texas swamp, fed by warm mineral springs and occasional river flooding, that provides a home to unique plant and animal life, some seen almost nowhere else in Texas. Back in the early 1930s, a small piece of that swamp near Gonzales became Palmetto State Park. Through the Civilian Conservation Corps' efforts to blend nature into their construction, the park today looks almost as natural as it did eight decades ago.

Just an hour from Austin or San Antonio and two hours from Houston, this picturesque park is a quick car ride for many Texans and easily accessible off of Interstate 10. If you're looking for more than just a day trip, extend your retreat with a night of camping or a stay in the park's quaint cabin.

The first thing I look for at a park is a trail to hike or bike, and the winding, well-manicured trails at Palmetto State Park offer plenty to see. The Ottine Swamp Trail and Palmetto Interpretive Trail have boardwalks and bridges so you can wind through swamps filled with the park's namesake dwarf palmettos. You'll feel as if you're in a tropical paradise.

The San Marcos River Trail leads you along the high banks of the San Marcos River, where towering cottonwoods

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