

Greer Island Trail Improvements Proceed

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The trails at Greer Island are in the process of being transformed by a new parking lot, restroom facilities, and bank stabilization efforts.

The Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center has made a major impact on the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge over the years. Most recently, the Friends were awarded a \$200,000 Texas Parks and Wildlife Trails Grant to improve and restore the trails at Greer Island, raising more than \$100,000 in matching funds in the process.

Improvements are currently in the design and permitting stage, with completion anticipated by the end of the year. The project will consist of expanding and improving the heavily used parking lot at the Greer Island Trailhead, installing new restroom facilities that are lacking at that end of the Refuge, and stabilizing portions of the banks along the trail next to the causeway that have experienced significant erosion.

The parking lot will be enlarged to 50 spaces, greatly increasing the number of cars that can park there. In addition, the lot will be paved and incorporate handicapped spots. And in an improvement that has long been requested, a new self-contained vault toilet will be installed at the trailhead. Both the parking lot and toilet will have ADA access. In addition, over time, the banks along some of the trails near the causeway have eroded due to flooding and other weather events. The banks will be restored and stabilized, with a Section 404 permit being sought from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the stabilization process.

Stay tuned for more updates as the project proceeds.