

# FAMILY CAMPOUT

Saturday 11/17 at 3PM – Sunday 11/18 at 12PM

**EXPLORE  
AUSTIN**  
LEADERSHIP MENTORING ADVENTURE

*If your family needs to arrive late on Saturday or leave early on Sunday, that is fine!*

Just send an email to [christina.ewin@exploreAustin.org](mailto:christina.ewin@exploreAustin.org)

**Arrival:** The campout officially starts at 3PM, but you can arrive at McKinney Falls State Park starting at 2pm. Please arrive between 2pm-4pm. Please plan accordingly by adding 30 minutes to your travel time to be sure you have reached your campsite, not the park entrance, by the start of the program. Your entrance fee is paid for – just tell them you are with a Texas Outdoor Family Campout with Explore Austin. They will give you a map. Next, drive to meet Explore Austin staff at Campsite 47 in the “Grapevine Loop Camping Area.” See map on next page.

**The Park:** [5808 McKinney Falls Pkwy, Austin, TX 78744](#). During your stay, the entire state park is open for you and your family to explore. Your entrance pass is valid through Sunday evening. Please stay on trails. When you arrive, check in at the Park Ranger Station. They will give you a map and directions to our camping area.

- [McKinney Falls State Park Website](#)
- [Trail Map](#)
- [Park Map](#)

**Food:** Explore Austin will have Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast provided, but you are welcome to bring any food for your family as well. We will have stoves and fires you can cook with separately, but Explore Austin will cook the planned meals. Anyone is welcome to help with cooking for the group (and cleaning dishes)! For Sunday lunch, we will have supplies for making sandwiches. NOTE: Any food/snacks you bring from home CANNOT enter your tent. Please store any food items in a car – animals will try to get it!

**Bathrooms & Electricity:** Every campsite has electricity and multiple outlet plugs, as well as drinkable water. Bathrooms with running water and showers very close to our campsites.

## Schedule of Events:

### Saturday, November 17

2:00-3:00 – Families begin to arrive, receive gear  
4:00 – Team meeting, staff campsite demonstration  
4:45-5:30 – Families set up campsites  
5:30 – Choice of free time, camp games, exploring park  
5:33 – Sunset!  
6:00 – EA Staff begins cooking dinner (meal TBD)  
6:45 – Dinner served!  
7:45 – Campfire demo by staff (families to build own fires)  
8:00 – Cooking clean up (all hands on deck)  
8:00 – S'mores, time by the campfire, evening games  
10:00 – Quiet hours begin

### Sunday, November 18

7:00 – Sunrise!  
7:30-8:30 – Coffee and breakfast station  
8:30 – Cooking clean up  
9:00 – Choice of yoga (45 minute guided session), fishing, guided hike on paved trail (easy for beginners, 1.5 hrs) or free time to explore the park  
11:00 – Camp breakdown and equipment return. We'll have supplies for a light lunch if you're hungry!  
12:00 – Goodbye!

# FAMILY CAMPOUT

Saturday 11/17 at 3PM – Sunday 11/18 at 12PM

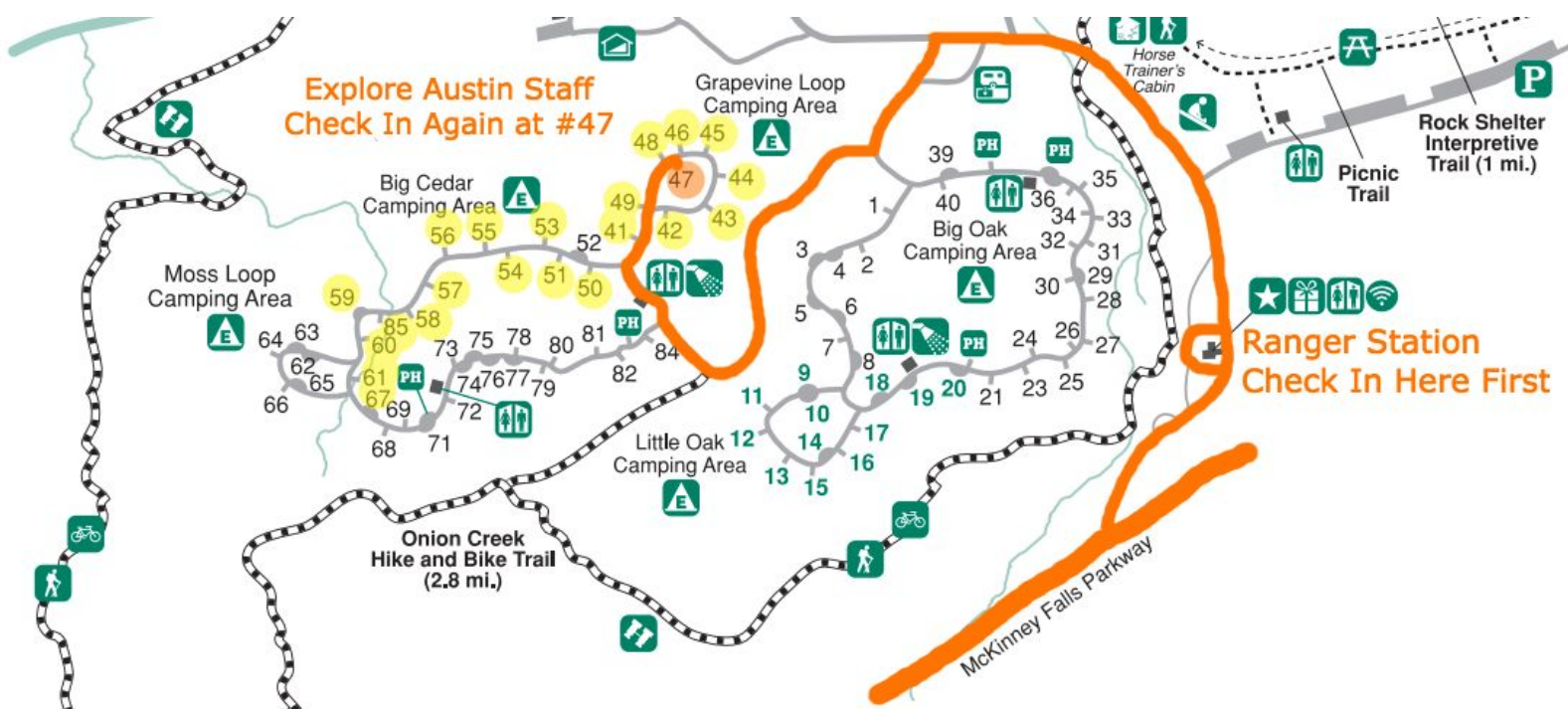
**EXPLORE  
AUSTIN**  
LEADERSHIP MENTORING ADVENTURE

## WHAT TO BRING:

- Clothing
  - Athletic clothing for each day (shorts, t-shirts, pants)
  - Outerwear (extra layers for warmth, warm jacket, sweatshirt, rain jacket, warm hat)
  - Pajamas
  - Close-toed shoes for hiking/walking
  - Sandals
- Toiletries
  - Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, face wash, prescription medicines, etc
- Personal Items -----
  - **SLEEPING BAG AND PILLOW**
  - Water bottle
  - Flashlight
  - Insect Repellent
  - Sunscreen
  - Sunglasses
- Optional Items -----
  - **FIREWOOD + KINDLING + lighter**
  - **(No collecting of twigs around the campsite)**
  - Personal entertainment (a book, craft, etc)
  - Sports equipment (soccer ball, frisbee)
  - Gloves, scarf
  - Folding/portable chairs
  - Extra blanket
  - Bicycles

## WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Video games, electronics
- Alcohol
- Weapons (no hunting knives, MACE, or firearms)
- Pets





## A Note from your Park Ranger

**Welcome!** We are pleased that you and your family are participating in the Texas Outdoor Family Program. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to share time together in the outdoors and learn more about Texas State Parks. Please take a few minutes to read some guidelines, rules, and suggestions which are designed for your family's enjoyment and safety.

### Your Safety

**Be prepared:** Wear appropriate dress and comfortable walking shoes in the outdoors. It is wise to dress in layers so that you may remove or add layers as needed. Know your abilities and physical limits. Before setting out on a hike, become aware of distances and trail conditions.

**Carry water with you at all times:** We recommend you drink one-half to one full quart of water or sports drink each and every hour you are in the heat. Carry your water bottle, drink small amounts often, and seek shade when you need it. Heat illness can be caused by excessive heat and a lack of fluids. Hike with a buddy and always let someone know where you are going.

**Avoid harmful wildlife and plants:** Stay in mowed areas and on trails where you can see possible dangers. By traveling where others have traveled before you, you will limit encounters with possible hazards. It is dangerous to eat wild-collected foods as they may cause a harmful reaction.

### Being Kind to the Park

**Leave What You Find:** The collection of plants and animals is illegal in a state park. Help us "Leave No Trace" and preserve the beauty that you have experienced for the next visitor to come along after you.

**Respect Wildlife:** Feeding wildlife causes them to become habituated to interacting with humans. This can be potentially unsafe for wildlife as their natural behavior is altered.

**Dead wood has life too:** See for yourself by lifting a decaying log and notice all the creatures that call it home. Texas State Parks prohibits firewood gathering. Bring your own kindling and paper, or fire starter.

**Respect Your Neighbors:** Quiet times enforced 10 p.m. - 6 a.m. for everyone's enjoyment. Dispose of Waste Properly: Keep this park natural and be a good steward; pick up litter and put it in its place. Don't forget to bring a trash bag from home. It is an often forgotten item!

**Travel on Durable Surfaces:** Plants "grow by the inch but die by the foot." Help protect you, the wildlife and the vegetation. You'll also avoid thorny bushes and biting insects!

