



Brazos Bend State Park

Support Texas Parks

Support Local Parks

State parks, local parks and other projects once benefited from a small portion of the state's cigarette tax. That funding was phased out in 1993 in favor of a portion of sales tax revenue generated by sporting goods sales. And yet, since that time, most of the sporting goods sales tax has gone to Texas's general revenue rather than Texas Parks and Wildlife Department – the Department it was originally intended to fund.

It's Time to Dedicate the Sporting Goods Sales Tax to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department



We Support:

1. That members of the 84th Legislature of Texas pass legislation maximizing the use of revenue from the sporting goods sales tax to increase funding for parks and recreation programs for both Local and State parks, and
2. That members of the 84th Legislature of Texas fully fund the local parks grant program as requested by the TPWD in its appropriation request.



Why Do We Care?

- Over the last 5 years, over \$12.5 MM has come to Harris County alone. Funding projects like:
 - Baytown's Nature Center and its programs
 - Junior Anglers and Hunters of America and their program connecting inner city youth to the outdoors
 - Renovation of Emancipation Park, a significant historical park for the African American community in Houston
 - The acquisition of large tract of forested land now known as West 11th Street Park
- Over the last 5 years, over \$35 MM has come into Harris County and surrounding counties. These dollars fund similar projects like:
 - The Galveston Island State Park Prairie Outreach Project
 - The Boys and Girls Club of Brazoria County's Ultimate Journey Experience

Park conservancies and conservation groups recognize the importance of a cohesive state park system, and how local parks play a role in creating opportunities for all Texans to enjoy our remaining wild spaces. Parks promote positive economic development and environmental stewardship. Please end the diversion of the sporting goods sales tax.

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