Our mission is to conserve the natural ecosystem of the Trinity River Watershed for the birds and wildlife that inhabit it for educational purposes and for future generations to enjoy this unique and special place in the same way you are able to enjoy it during your visit. We ask that all visitors respect and help preserve this ecosystem and this property. All visitors are expected to practice the “leave no trace” principles of outdoor ethics and observe the following rules and guidelines for usage of our trails and facility.

Because the Center is a family destination and experience, we expect Guests to act appropriately. Please show common courtesy to other Center Guests, Center Team Members, and Center Volunteers by not using profanity or engaging in unsafe, illegal, disruptive, or offensive behavior.

CENTER RULES

1. Trails are open only during regular operating hours and special events. Trails are subject to closure due to trail conditions and weather. For hikes outside of regular hours, consider a guided hike, including night hikes, available by appointment. Unauthorized access to trails prior to and after hours is prohibited and is considered criminal trespassing. The entry (vehicle access and egress) gate will be locked prior to and after posted Center closing times.

2. There are both venomous and non-venomous snakes on the premises. They are protected by state law. If you encounter any snake, give it wide berth and leave it alone.

3. Poisonous plants, including poison ivy, are on the property. Know what poison ivy looks like and avoid it.

4. Stay on designated trails and specifically avoid areas where vegetation could be impacted. Walk in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy. Avoid walking on vegetation as it widens the trail and contributes to erosion.

5. Do not “cross cut” trails, create new trails, or “bushwhack”.

7. Do not post signs or notices of any kind. Flagging and other unauthorized trail marking is prohibited. Graffiti is prohibited, including but not limited to, writing, painting, marking, scratching, carving, or etching graffiti anywhere on the property.

8. Leave what you find. Preserve the past: observe, but do not touch. Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.

9. Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.

10. Respect wildlife. Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Do not allow children to chase or approach wildlife. Wildlife is protected by law.

11. Be considerate of other visitors. Avoid loud voices and noises.

12. Geocaching is prohibited due to on-site conservation.

13. No vehicles of any kind permitted beyond the parking lot, including but not limited to, bikes, scooters, skateboards, motorized vehicles, remote controlled toys – including drones. Do not park or drive on grass.

14. Alcohol is prohibited except when authorized within a contract associated with a facility rental.

15. No campfires, explosives, fireworks (including sparklers), or open flames of any kind are permitted.

16. Camping, fishing, and hunting are prohibited.

17. No firearms or other weapons are permitted, except as allowed by applicable law. Weapons of any kind, objects that appear to be weapons or toy guns (also including toy blasters, water guns, etc.) are prohibited.

18. All persons, bags, parcels, clothing, and other items may be subject to screening/security checks.

19. The Center reserves the right not to allow any bag, parcel, or other item to be brought into the Center and to take action with any unattended object in such a way as we consider appropriate.

20. For your safety and the safety of others, please refrain from running.

21. Appropriate attire, including shirts and shoes, must be worn at all times. Clothing with multiple layers is subject to search. We reserve the right to deny admission to
or remove any person wearing attire that we consider inappropriate or attire that could detract from the experience of other Guests. Visible tattoos that could be considered inappropriate, such as those containing objectionable language or designs are not permitted. Bathing suits are not permitted.

22. For the comfort and safety of all Guests, smoking of tobacco, e-cigarettes or other products that produce a vapor or smoke are not allowed on the campus – including trails. Per City of Dallas Ordinance 30258, it is illegal to smoke on Center property.

23. Please supervise your children and children within your care at all times. Guests under the age of 16 must be accompanied at all times by an adult.

24. We allow trained service animals in all public areas of the Center and its trails. For more information, please read our complete Service Animals Policy.

25. Costume Policy: Costumes may not be worn by guests 13 years of age or older; however, some costumes may be permitted during select special events (special event costume guidelines apply). Masks may not be worn by guests 13 years of age or older unless they are for medical purposes.

Special Events Costume Policy: While we encourage creativity, we also value safety and good judgment. If you’re planning to attend a special event at the Center, take a moment to read over our policies:

All Guests: The Center reserves the right to deny admission to or remove any person wearing attire that is considered inappropriate or detracts from the experience of others. Costumes must be family-friendly and may not be obstructive, offensive, objectionable, or violent. Costumes may not include weapons that resemble or could be mistaken for an actual weapon. Costumes may not contain sharp objects, pointed objects, or materials that may accidentally strike another individual.

13 and Older: Layered costumes or costume props that surround the entire body are strongly discouraged and may be subject to additional security screening. Masks of any kind may not be worn.

12 and Younger: Costumes and some masks may be worn, as long as the mask does not cover the entire face, and eyes are visible.

Guests who do not adhere to these guidelines may be refused entry into and/or removed from the premises unless the costume can be modified to meet Center standards.

26. Glass containers are not allowed on property.
27. Dogs or other animals, except approved service animals. For more information, please read our complete Service Animals Policy.

28. Glitter, balloons, confetti, and other materials considered to be micro trash are not allowed on property.

29. Other items that we determine may be harmful or disruptive to the Center’s Mission, guests, volunteers, and team members are not allowed on property.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

The following activities are not allowed:

1. The sale of goods or services or the display of goods or services for sale.

2. The distribution of printed or recorded materials of any kind.

3. Unauthorized events, demonstrations or speeches, or the usage of any banner, flag, or sign for commercial purposes or to incite a crowd.

4. Fishing, camping, and hunting are not allowed on Center property.

5. Photography, videotaping, or recording of any kind for commercial purpose without a proper contract.

Leased exhibition / temporary exhibition may have further restrictions on photography per contractual policies. Areas within the Center or portions of an exhibition wherein photography may be limited or prohibited will be communicated via signage, an exhibit gallery guide, or a Center team member.

Guests must have written permission to use photography and/or video of Center images for commercial broadcasting, advertising, marketing or publishing in any medium.

6. Engaging in any unsafe act or other action that may impede the operation of the Center.

7. Guests are required to comply with all local, state, and federal laws as well as Center policies, rules, and instructions posted or otherwise listed or verbally communicated.

Please note that these guidelines may change without notice.