



Ozona Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

Crockett County Interpretive Trail



About the Trail

Welcome to the Crockett County Interpretive Trail!

This is an interpretation of plant material in its native habitat within a 100 mile radius of Ozona. The trail includes a Rain Harvest Exhibit with signage on the process of collecting water for landscaping, livestock watering or home use. There is also a wildlife viewing area and a watering hole for birds and butterflies.

The purpose of this project is to educate local and regional residents, and visitors across the country about the importance of water conservation, and the use of native plants.

Plants are part of our heritage and the trail system encourages the protection, preservation and respect of their contribution to our every day lives. They provide food, fiber, shelter, and are used for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Plants play a key environmental role for pollination, feeding livestock, and oxygen.

Additional information about the Interpretive Trail and the Rain Harvest Exhibit can be found inside the Visitor Center.

Thank You for visiting our site, and PLEASE invite your friends and family to stop by as well.



Hang Your Hat in History

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Alphabetical listing of all plants in the trail

Prairie Acacia
Acacia angustissima
 Guajillo
Acacia berlandieri
 Whitethorn acacia
Acacia constricta
 Catclaw, Gregg Acacia
Acacia greggii
 Sand Sage
Artemisia filifolia
 Fourwing Saltbush
Atriplex canescens
 Anacacho orchid tree
Bauhinia lunarioides
 Chocolate Flower
Berlandiera lyrata
 Verbena
Bipinnitifida glandalaria
 Fairy Duster
Calliandra eriophylla
 Winecup
Callirhoe involucrata
 Sundrops
Calylophus hartwegii ssp. *fendleri*
 Granjeno, desert hackberry
Celtis ehrenbergiana
 Texas Redbud "Ozona"
Cercis canadensis var. *texensis* "Ozona"
 Mountain Mahogany
Cercocarpus montanus var. *argenteus*
 Desert Willow
Chilopsis linearis
 Damianita
Chrysactinia mexicana
 Gregg's Blue Mistflower
Conoclinium greggii
 Turner's Hawthorn
Crataegus turnerorum

Golden Dalea
Dalea aurea
 Black Dalea
Dalea frutescens
 Gregg's Dalea
Dalea greggii
 Sotol, Desert Spoon
Dasyilirion wheeleri
 Texas Persimmon
Diospyros texana
 Horse crippler
Echinocactus texensis hopffers
 Strawberry pitaya
Echinocereus enneacanthus
 Lace Cactus
Echinocereus reichenbachii
 Mormon Tea
Ephedra viridis
 Candelilla
Euphorbia antisyphilitica
 Texas Kidneywood
Eysenhardtia texana
 Apache Plume
Fallugia paradoxa
 Cliff Fendlerbush
Fendlera rupicola
 Texas Barrel Cactus
Ferocactus hamatacanthus
 Narrow-leaf forestiera
Forestiera angustifolia
 Ocotillo
Fouquieria splendens
 Gregg's Ash
Fraxinus greggii
 Red yucca
Hesperaloe parviflora

(Common Name/Scientific Name)

Hog Potato, Indian Rush-pea
Hoffmannseggia glauca
 Indigofera
Indigofera lindheimeriana
 Creosote bush
Larrea tridentata
 Goldenball leadtree
Leucaena retusa
 Cenizo, Purple Sage
Leucophyllum frutescens
 Gayfeather
Liatris spp.
 White Honeysuckle
Lonicera albiflora
 Agarito, Algerita
Mahonia trifoliolata
 Blackfoot Daisy
Melampodium leucanthum
 Showy menodora
Menodora longiflora
 Fragrant mimosa
Mimosa borealis
 Lindheimer's muhly
Muhlenbergia lindheimeri
 Devil's Shoestring
Nolina lindheimeriana
 Sacahuista, beargrass
Nolina microcarpa
 Scarlet muskflower, Devil's bouquet
Nyctaginia capitata
 Pink evening primrose
Oenothera speciosa
 Cholla
Opuntia imbricata
 Prickly Pear
Opuntia spp.
 Prairie phlox
Phlox pilosa

Honey Mesquite
Prosopis glandulosa
 Wafer Ash
Ptelea trifoliata
 Vasey Oak
Quercus vaseyana
 Three Leaf Sumac
Rhus trilobata
 Evergreen Sumac
Rhus virens
 Buffalo Currant
Ribes aureum
 Mejorana Blue Shrub Sage
Salvia ballotiflora
 Mealy Blue Sage
Salvia farinacea
 Autumn Sage
Salvia greggii
 Velvet Leaf Senna
Senna lindheimeriana
 Texas Mountain Laurel, Mescal bean
Sophora secundiflora
 Copper Mallow
Sphaeralcea angustifolia
 Mexican Buckeye
Ungnadia speciosa
 Skeleton-leaf Goldeneye
Viguiera stenoloba
 Zexmenia
Wedelia texana
 Banana yucca
Yucca baccata
 Buckley's yucca
Yucca constricta
 Thompson's Yucca
Yucca thompsoniana
 Lotebush
Ziziphus obtusifolia



Acacia angustissima—Prairie Acacia: Round creamy flowers resemble shaving brushes. Seeds are rich in protein. Readily eaten by livestock and decreases in abundance with heavy grazing.



Acacia greggii—Catclaw, Gregg acacia: One of the most despised southwestern shrubs. As indicated by the common names (including the Spanish, una degato), the sharp, stout, hooked spines, like a cat's claws, tear clothing and flesh.



Bauhinia lunarioides—Anacacho orchid tree: Native only to a few canyons in west central Texas and northeast Mexico. Fruit is a flattened pod. The nectar attracts butterflies and bees.



Calliandra eriophylla—Fairy Duster: Spring flowers form delicate, pink balls, giving a fluffy pink appearance. Belongs to a group of tropical woody plants that includes acacias and mimosas.



Acacia berlandieri—Guajillo: a spreading shrub, growing 3–15 feet tall. The flower is a source of heavy, light-colored honey, rated by many as the best in the state. The seed pods are 3–5 inches long and 1 inch or more wide.



Artemisia filifolia—Sand sage: A semi-evergreen shrub with feathery, silver-blue foliage. The whole plant is sweetly pungent. Good for erosion control. A hayfever plant.



Berlandiera lyrata—Chocolate Flower: Chocolate flower is a velvety-leaved, 1-2 ft. perennial. Flowers droop in the heat of day. Chocolate odor may be detected when the rays are plucked from the flower head.



Calylophus hartwegii ssp. fendleri—Sundrops: This perennial member of the evening primrose family requires lots of sunshine. Yellow flowers bloom in April and May.



Acacia constricta—Whitethorn acacia: A 9-15 ft., multi-trunked tree with small, yellow-orange balls of fragrant flowers. Finely segmented, pinnate leaves fall off during dry seasons. 2-4 in. beans ripen to bright red.



Atriplex canescens—Fourwing Saltbush: A 3 ft. semi-evergreen shrub, which can reach 8 ft. Extremely variable shrub: compact and rounded; sprawling and low; open-branched and treelike.



Bipinnatifida glandalaria—Verbena: Spanish name, Moradilla, comes from morado ("purple") and means "little purple one." Forms brilliant displays of pink or light purple, covering acres of ground.



Celtis ehrenbergiana—Granjeno, desert hackberry: This deciduous plant rarely reaches 10 ft. in height. Shiny red, orange and yellow fruit ripens in fall but persists long after leaf-fall.



***Cercis canadensis* var. *texensis* "Ozona"—Texas redbud "Ozona":** Propagated from a redbud in Ozona. Drought and limestone soil tolerant. Showy, attractive source of honey, used in treatment of dysentery.



***Chrysactinia mexicana*—Damianita:** A 1-2 ft., bushy, low-growing, aromatic, evergreen shrub. Technically a shrub; used like a flower. Very drought-tolerant.



***Dalea aurea*—Golden Dalea:** A member of the pea family, this species grows well in rock gardens and dry soils. It is especially beneficial to native bees. Looks best in mid-summer.



***Dasyilirion wheeleri*—Sotol, Desert Spoon:** May be used to make food and liquor or woven into mats, baskets and thatching. Used in dried floral arrangements.



***Cercocarpus montanus* var. *argenteus*—Mountain Mahogany:** Often under 3.3 ft. in height because of browsing, it can reach 20 feet. The species is considered to be long lived.



***Conoclinium greggii*—Gregg's Blue Mistflower:** A perennial up to 2 ft. tall with palmate leaves. Small, purplish-blue flowers cluster together to form puffy, 2 in., cushion-like flower heads.



***Dalea frutescens*—Black dalea:** Thornless shrub up to 3 ft. tall; stems gray to light brown, twigs are thin, reddish brown. Small, purple flowers in dense heads or spikes at the ends of branches, from July to October. Fruit is an inconspicuous capsule.



***Diospyros texana*—Texas Persimmon:** Shrub or small tree with very hard wood, usually multi-trunked. Male and female flowers on separate plants, appearing in March and April. Fruit fleshy, round, up to 1-in. diameter.



***Chilopsis linearis*—Desert Willow:** A 15-40 ft., small tree or large shrub. Rapid growth, drought tolerance, and ease of maintenance. Sought-after plant within its range. Does best with just enough water to keep it blooming and healthily green.



***Crataegus turnerorum*—Turner's Hawthorn:** White blooms. Develops like a tree into a round-shaped shrub. Not an evergreen. Turns a purple-pink color during the summer. Can reach up to 20 ft. Valuable to bees.



***Dalea greggii*—Gregg's dalea:** A 4-9 in., trailing sub-shrub, spreading 2-4 ft. A good ground cover for rocky slopes and exposed sites. Tolerates dry conditions well.



***Echinocereus enneacanthus*—Strawberry Pitaya:** New stems grow as side branches, later turning upward, giving them a long, curling appearance. Bright green with a wrinkled appearance, looking withered in dry periods.



***Echinocereus reichenbachii*—Lace Cactus:** Starts out as a sphere and gradually evolves its cylindrical form., rarely taller than 8 in. May form one stem or branch into a dozen or more.



***Eysenhardtia texana*—Texas Kidneywood:** An unarmed, much-branched shrub. This tree was once used in remedies for kidney and bladder ailments.



***Ferocactus hamatacanthus*—Texas Barrel Cactus:** Also known as giant fishhook cactus. The flowers are fragrant, though one should be steady on one's feet when smelling them.



***Fraxinus greggii*—Gregg's Ash:** Evergreen, grows to 15 ft. and 10 ft. width. Has a small winged seed and inconspicuous flowers with smooth gray bark. Drought tolerant.



***Echinocactus texensis hopfers*—Horse crippler:** Broader than long, is normally 1-2 inches and up to 12 inches across. Has crippled many horses. Flower is somewhat fragrant.



***Fallugia paradoxa*—Apache plume:** In full flower their white petals are attractive against the dark foliage. Fruit clusters with feathery, purplish tails said to resemble Apache headdress.



***Forestiera angustifolia*—Narrow-leaf forestiera:** Also called Elbow bush, livestock and birds browse on its twigs and fruit. An important source of nectar for bees.



***Hesperaloe parviflora*—Red yucca:** Not a yucca, this produces soft, yucca-like, evergreen leaves. Deer browse the foliage, while flowers attract hummingbirds.



***Euphorbia antisyphilitica*—Candelilla, Wax plant:** Numerous, rarely branched, waxy stems resemble a cluster of slender, pale-green candles. This plant is in the same genus as the holiday favorite Poinsettia.



***Fendlera rupicola*—Cliff fendlerbush:** Also known as false mock orange. A member of the hydrangea family. Provides excellent browse for goats, sheep, and deer.



***Fouquieria splendens*—Ocotillo:** Also known as Devil's walking stick. Leaves appear only after rain and wither when the soil dries. Ocotillo means little pine in Mexican Spanish.



***Hoffmannseggia glauca*—Hog Potato, Indian rush-pea:** This plant has small, edible swellings on the roots that provide good nourishment for many animals and were also used as food by Native Americans. The Spanish name, Camote de Raton, means mouse's sweet potato.



Indigofera lindheimeriana—Indigofera: A perennial subshrub named after Ferdinand Lindheimer, who is often called the Father of Texas Botany.



Leucophyllum frutescens—Cenzio, Purple Sage: Compact shrub, 2-5 ft. tall, occasionally reaches 8 ft. in height, and 4-6 ft. in width. Popular water-conserving ornamentals in the Southwest.



Mahonia trifoliolata—Agarito, Algerita: 3-6 ft. evergreen shrub, can reach 8 ft. in favorable conditions. Wood bright yellow. Fruit a red berry, edible, appearing from May to July.



Mimosa borealis—Fragrant mimosa: Long, slender, intricately-branched stems of this 2-6 ft. deciduous shrub. Thorns scattered along the branches. Fragrant, pink flowers occur in soft, dense ball-shaped clusters.



Larrea tridentata—Creosote bush: 3-5 ft., evergreen shrub which can reach 10 ft. Decoctions from its leaves are used as antiseptics and emetics. Its pungency fills the air following rains.



Liatris punctata - Gayfeather: A long taproot makes this drought-tolerant. Can be used to treat heart pain, stomachache, improve appetite, bladder and kidney problems, or applied to swellings



Melampodium leucanthum—Blackfoot Daisy: Low, round, bushy plant. Flower heads of 8-10 broad white rays surrounding a small yellow central disk which are solitary and terminal on slender stalks.



Nolina lindheimeriana—Devil's shoestring: Resembles a large clump of grass in the open and in light shade on limestone slopes and cliffs. Flowers about 3/16 inch wide, white to cream, numerous on slender branches.



Leucaena retusa—Goldenball leadtree: A small, multi-trunked tree or large shrub, 12-15 ft. tall, which can reach 25 ft. Bark is flaky and cinnamon-colored. A good browse plant for cattle.



Lonicera albiflora—White Honeysuckle: Long, graceful, sometimes twining branches of white honeysuckle can reach 10 ft. Serves as browse for deer. Its berries attract birds.



Menodora longiflora—Showy Menodora: This plant has a long, narrow tube flower, with the stamens hidden inside the tube. Grows 12-18 inches tall.



Nolina microcarpa—Sacahuista, Beargrass: Not a true grass but a succulent member of the lily family. It has been utilized to construct baskets. Sacahuista is a combination of two Aztec words: zacatl (grass) and huitztli (thorn).



Nyctaginia capitata—Scarlet muskflower, Devil's bouquet: This plant is a member of the Four-O'clock family. Flowers open in cool of evening and close in the hot sun of the next day.



Ptelea trifoliata—Wafer Ash: Aromatic shrub or small tree with a rounded crown. The bitter bark of the root, like other aromatic barks, has been used for home remedies.



Rhus virens—Evergreen Sumac: Fruit matures in mid-September and is covered with fine hair. Grown to make a nice, thick hedge or screen fast growing, generally insect and disease-free, and drought tolerant.



Salvia farinacea—Mealy Blue Sage: Named for the mealy-white appearance of the sepals, which are covered with felted hairs. The leaves may or may not have teeth.



Opuntia imbricata—Cholla, Desert Walking Stick: Large, showy, reddish-purple flowers open wide. Fruits ripen from green to rose to yellow. First bush-like cholla when traveling from the East to the Southwest.



Quercus vaseyana—Vasey Oak: Incredibly drought tolerant, but stress can cause it to grow only into a small tree. Deer, squirrels, wild turkeys and other wildlife feed on the acorns.



Ribes aureum—Buffalo Currant: Adaptable plant, tolerating standing water to drought. Provides nectar to hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Birds, bears and rodents eat the fruit.



Salvia greggii—Autumn Sage: A popular landscape plant in the Southwest, used as a small, ornamental, flowering shrub or as a low hedge. Disease and insect free, drought tolerant. Once established, should not be fertilized



Prosopis glandulosa—Honey Mesquite: A shrub or small tree to 30 ft. Twigs are armed with sharp thorns up to 2 inches. Cattlemen regard as range weeds and eradicate them. Indians prepared meal and cakes from the pods.



Rhus trilobata—Three Leaf Sumac: Drought tolerant. Useful in erosion control. Only female plants produce flowers and berries. Food for birds and mammals.



Salvia ballotiflora—Mejorana, Blue Shrub Sage: Much-branched aromatic shrub with square stems. Leaves are opposite with serrated margins, hairy above and below. Flowers bluish-purple in elongated clusters.



Senna lindheimeriana—Velvet leaf senna: A bushy perennial, 3-6 ft. high. Effective in a wildflower garden as a specimen or background plant. An important source of food for birds.



***Sophora secundiflora*—Texas Mountain Laurel, Mescal bean:** Brilliant, lacquer red seeds were valued by indigenous people for ornament and ceremonial use. Highly poisonous alkaloid cytosine, widely cited as a narcotic and hallucinogen.



***Sphaeralcea angustifolia*—Copper mallow:** Normally 2–3 feet tall, sometimes up to 6 feet. Flowers bloom between June and November and may bloom more than once during that time if rains are favorable.



***Ungnadia speciosa*—Mexican Buckeye:** An 8-12 ft., deciduous tree, can reach 30 ft. in height. Sweetish but poisonous seeds are sometimes used by children as marbles.



***Viguiera stenoloba*—Skeleton-leaf Goldeneye:** Grows 2-4 ft. Prolific, daisy-like, yellow-orange flowers bloom atop leafless stalks. Extremely drought-tolerant plant. Makes an excellent tall ground cover or small flowering shrub.



***Wedelia texana*—Zexmenia:** A small shrub, from 8 in. to 3 ft. tall. Woody branches send down roots and gradually increase the plants' circumference. It is long-lived and non-aggressive.



***Yucca baccata*—Banana yucca:** Grows in clumps with short, reclining stems. The flowering stem is up to 40 in. tall, bears large, pendant, fleshy, white flowers with a red-purple tinge.



***Yucca thompsoniana*—Thompson's Yucca:** Grows 6–12 feet high, treelike, with a trunk 5–8 inches in diameter, usually unbranched. Stays neat and will adapt to any soil and reflected heat.



***Ziziphus obtusifolia*—Lotebush:** Frequent in unshaded places with very shallow soil over limestone. Bark with lengthwise cracks resulting from radial growth. Inconspicuous flower clusters.

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center for granting permission to use much of the photography and information found in this brochure.