Lone Star Legacy Park Class of 2027 Information

Description:

A Lone Star Legacy Park holds a special place in both the local community and the state of Texas. These parks have stood the test of time, becoming iconic to those who have visited, played, and found rest within their boundaries. Being designated as a Lone Star Legacy is one of the highest honors a park can receive. Throughout history, parks have played a vital role in shaping our communities. Just as Main Streets fostered commerce and identity, local parks provided spaces for community gathering, natural relaxation, and social interaction as towns were founded, developed, and thrived.

Lone Star Legacy Parks are not defined by their size, makeup, or location. Instead, this designation recognizes the unique significance a park holds for its community. While New York City has Central Park and Boston boasts the Common Gardens, communities across Texas take pride in their own historic parks. Some parks are celebrated for their natural features, such as forests, springs, and wetlands. Others are known for annual traditions like parades, pageants, and festivals. Lone Star Legacy Parks honor the profound impact these cherished spaces have had on the people who have enjoyed them over the years.



San Pedro Park, San Antonio, circa 1918

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Submitting Applications:
Applications are due by December 1, 2026. Successful applicants will be announced at the Texas Recreation and Park Society Annual Institute in February, 2027. Agencies may submit one park each year for consideration. Multiple submissions from the same agency in one year will not be considered.

Criteria:
Legacy Parks must be at least 50 years old, designated as a public park and meet at least one of the following:

- The property represents distinctive design and/or construction.
- The park is associated with historic events or sites.
- The park is associated with events specific to the local community/state.
- The park is home to unique natural features.

Application Fee:
A $200 fee is due with the application. Fees are used to offset costs for application management, awards and promotion of the Lone Star Legacy Parks program. If selected, an additional fee will be applicable if the agency would like to order a marker commemorating the designation.

If the park is not awarded the designation in the first year, the Review Committee will provide feedback to the agency regarding the application score and areas for improvement. The agency will be able to resubmit the application one time within the following three years. A $50 resubmission fee will be applicable.

Judging:
Panel members will review applications and apply points to each criterion. Points will be tallied and applications with the highest scores will be awarded the designation. The review committee will make final decisions on the number of eligible awards to make in a year.

Applications can be found at:
https://traps.org/lone-star-legacy-parks/

Payments can be made at:
https://membership.traps.org/page/LSLP

Application and Payment Deadline: December 1, 2026



Balmorhea State Park, circa 1950's