

Discover ABNC's Discovery Loop

The Discovery Loop and the remarkable features it leads to are now accessible for people who use wheelchairs and for people with limited mobility.

JANUARY 25, 2022, PASADENA, TEXAS

In 2021 Armand Bayou Nature Center (ABNC) embarked on an ambitious goal to make their Discovery Loop trail accessible for people using wheel chairs and people with limited mobility. ABNC has over 5 miles of trails of varying lengths. The .67 mile Discovery Loop trail is the core trail and provides visitors a unique view of the three diverse and vulnerable Gulf Coast habitats which ABNC works to preserve. Like its name implies, this popular trail provides visitors the opportunity to discover wetlands, historic prairie grasslands, riparian forest, ABNC's Environmental Learning Center with displays of living fish, reptiles, and amphibians, interactive John P. McGovern Children's Discovery Area, Bison Viewing Platform, and ABNC's authentic 1800's farm site.

"We are so grateful to companies like Chemours who are helping us to make the wonders and comforts of nature accessible to everyone." ABNC Executive Director, Tim Pylate

Visitors who explore ABNC's Discovery Loop are often rewarded with wildlife sightings, including buffalo, armadillo, squirrels, deer, and so much more. With more than 370 species of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians making Armand Bayou Nature Center their home, ABNC is a hotspot for native wildlife sightings. Every visit provides an opportunity to see something new. ABNC wants everyone to have the opportunity to reconnect with nature, which is why last year they actively worked with corporate partners to make the Discovery Loop accessible to people who use wheelchairs and people with limited mobility.

"It was a pleasure for the Chemours LaPorte, Texas site to engage with the ABNC staff and help make the Discovery Loop accessible to all visitors." Chemours

Chemours generously donated \$10,000 and their employees volunteered many hours to complete work on the trail around our bison platform and our historic farmstead. The Discovery Loop and the remarkable features it leads to are now accessible for people who use wheelchairs and for people with limited mobility. This improved accessibility also expands the experience our education department can provide to students with distinct abilities who participate in our EcoEducation programs. The trails are now also easier to maneuver for families with small children and strollers. The Accessible Discovery Loop project is now complete and is a great success thanks to the generous support of corporate partner's like Chemours.

About Armand Bayou Nature Center

Established in 1974, Armand Bayou Nature Center is one of the largest urban wilderness preserves in the United States. From fields of waving prairie grasses to forested wetlands to unspoiled bayou

systems, Armand Bayou Nature Center is a place like no other. At the crossroads of three vulnerable gulf coast ecosystems, ABNC protects and restores 2,500 acres of rich ecological habitat. The survival of these ecosystems is important for the wildlife that depend upon them, for people seeking the wonder and comforts of nature, and for the range of ecosystem services they provide, including carbon sequestration, storm water retention, flood abatement and water quality improvement. ABNC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, relying on funds raised through visitor services, fundraising events, grants, donations and corporate partnerships to continue our crucial preservation and education efforts.

To learn more about Armand Bayou Nature Center please visit abnc.org.

Name of Press Contact: Mary Prevost

Email: mary@abnc.org