



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Texas is a unique land. Covering more than 268,000 square miles, our terrain spans several geographical regions. From the lush pine forests of East Texas to the rugged mountains of the Big Bend and far West Texas and from the wide-sweeping plains and prairies of the Panhandle and North Texas to the beaches of the Gulf Coast, Texans are able to experience diverse landscapes within their own state.

Our nation is just as varied. Places like the Rocky Mountains, Everglades and Grand Canyon have inspired Americans for generations. For more than 100 years, the National Park Service has been protecting and preserving treasured places like these throughout the United States. From the first national park at Yellowstone, the National Park Service now oversees more than 400 sites.

Within the Lone Star State, we have 13 locations. Big Bend National Park and Guadalupe Mountains National Park provide outdoor adventurers with challenging hiking opportunities and the chance to explore some of Texas' highest peaks. Padre Island National Seashore allows visitors to explore our diverse coastal ecosystem, and Big Thicket National Preserve displays the majesty of our state's dense forest region. These are but a few examples of the opportunities Texans have to get out and enjoy our national park system right here at home.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to join me in learning more about and exploring the amazing beauty of our national parks.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 21–29, 2018, to be

**National Park Week**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

  
Governor of Texas