Here, you’ll find native plants used in a variety of styles in gardens that conserve water and support wildlife.

CENTRAL GARDENS

These sustainable gardens display many of the 650 different species of native plants growing throughout the Center. Here, you’ll find native plants used in a variety of styles in gardens that conserve water and support wildlife.

CENTRAL COMPLEX

The Center’s buildings reflect Central Texas history — sandstone epitomizes the Spanish mission settlements, limestone was commonly used by German immigrants, and corrugated tin suggests the state’s modern ranches and farms. 

LUCI & IAN FAMILY GARDEN

This 4.5-acre garden connects families with the natural world by providing more than a dozen interactive and educational features made of natural materials, including a maze, a stumpery, giant bird nests, a creek and a waterfall.

TEXAS ARBORETUM

The 16-acre Mollie Stites Zachry Texas Arboretum is a classic arboretum featuring a diversity of Texas trees, including a collection of oak species (Texas has the greatest diversity of oaks in the U.S.), the Hall of Texas Heroes (a collection of live oaks descended from famous trees) and the swings in the Cathedral Oaks.

RESTORATION RESEARCH

In this 70-acre area, the Center studies how prescribed fire and mowing affect the growth of native grasses and wildflowers. Observe how the land responds to these management techniques applied for more than 15 years to 54 large experimental plots.

WALK THE WILD SIDE

Explore the Family Garden’s giant bird nests, a creek and a waterfall. Hike to the top of the Tower to peer down at the surrounding world. Can you see downtown Austin?

GET INSPIRED

The Theme Gardens are full of different species of plants named for famous botanists. Different garden styles using native plants.

FIND YOUR PATH QUICK PLANT GUIDE

› Beat the heat in the Woodland Garden, where you’ll find a diversity of plants adapted to shade and cacti.

› Get thee to the Visitors Gallery pronto for an up-close look at what’s blooming, fruiting and setting seed today.

› The Pollinator Habitat Garden and Nectar Garden will give you a feel for our natural environment.

› Step through the tiny door to the Little House to find photo spots.

› Look for some good ideas for your garden.

› Beat the heat in the Woodland Garden, where you’ll find a diversity of plants adapted to shade and cacti.

› Get thee to the Visitors Gallery pronto for an up-close look at what’s blooming, fruiting and setting seed today.

› The Pollinator Habitat Garden and Nectar Garden will give you a feel for our natural environment.

› Step through the tiny door to the Little House to find photo spots.

› Look for some good ideas for your garden.

› Beat the heat in the Woodland Garden, where you’ll find a diversity of plants adapted to shade and cacti.

› Get thee to the Visitors Gallery pronto for an up-close look at what’s blooming, fruiting and setting seed today.

› The Pollinator Habitat Garden and Nectar Garden will give you a feel for our natural environment.

› Step through the tiny door to the Little House to find photo spots.

› Look for some good ideas for your garden.