

#25. BLUE HOLE REGIONAL PARK

Location:

Texas, United States

Year: 2011

Theme(s):

Partnership/ Inclusivity/ Stakeholder involvement

Languages: English

Source: <https://bit.ly/2r8pboz>

WHY IS THIS A GOOD EXAMPLE?

The park adopted a multidisciplinary approach in lowering carbon emissions, cleaning air and water, restoring habitats, and increasing energy efficiency. To encourage children to move, the design team created nature-based play features made from re-purposed materials found on-site. A particularly notable achievement is the design teams ability to protect 96 percent of the area while adding 320,000 square feet of active programming. In addition, nearly five miles of recreational trails were added, including a connection to the regional hiking and biking trail. Pedestrian routes to areas within the park were made to be safe, visible, and well lit.

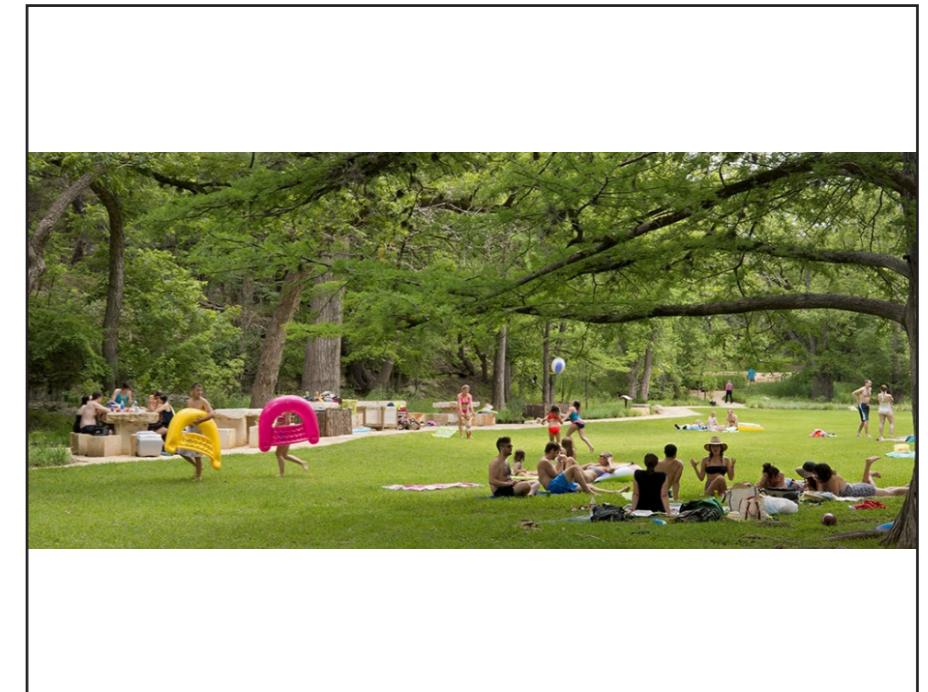


Photo credit: <http://www.wimberleybluehole.com/>

DESCRIPTION

Blue Hole is a natural spring fed swimming hole and a long time treasured Texas Hill Country destination. However, years of unmanaged recreational activities damaged the site and its ecosystem. Its residents desired to restore the Blue Hole to its former glory, so it has been purchased with the intention to use it as a regional park. A design team led by Design Workshop Inc. was asked to develop a new park to accommodate visitors and restore the damaged ecosystems, while minimizing the risks of environmental degradation. The park now supports active and educational activities with its soccer fields, basketball courts, playgrounds, camping sites, and swimming in the Blue Hole.

Owner

City of Wimberley

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<http://www.wimberleybluehole.com/>