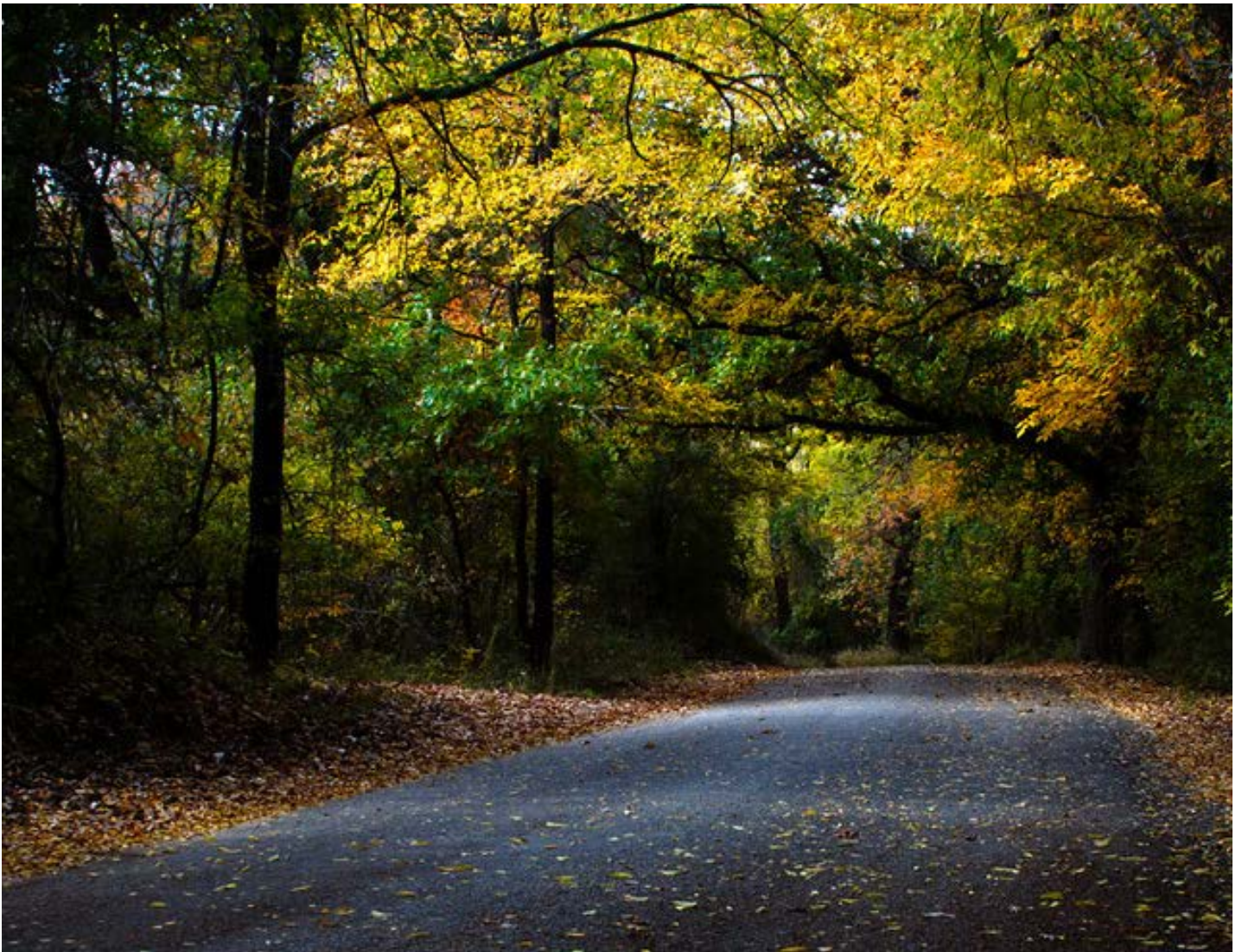


Experience the Extraordinary During Your Holiday Breaks

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Visitors to the Nature Center are greeted with a painted forest full of colorful leaves. Daryl and Brandon Marling Photo.

Fall is upon us, and winter is quickly approaching. This means children will be out of school and parents and grandparents will begin searching for fun entertainment. The cooler temperatures set the stage for

hikes across the Refuge, paddles down the river, and enrollment in educational programs. We look forward to becoming your destination for your fall and winter breaks.

Roaming through the Nature Center during fall is a treat for all. The Refuge offers great views of trees in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The colorful leaves are inviting and provide a sense of warmth and nostalgia as they slowly parachute to the ground. One way to enjoy the color and learn about our history is partaking in a bison-feeding hayride. Join us as we wind through the Refuge discussing the origins of the Nature Center, filling you in on current projects, and examining the importance of wildlife. Bison will be the main attraction, and the highlight of the hayride will be helping to feed them. While you feed them, you will learn about the ecological, conservation, and recreational purposes of our herd. Hayrides will occur around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays (see schedule in Upcoming Events below).

Exploring fall and winter can be enjoyable on foot as well. The Nature Center offers guided hikes around the Refuge. As you stroll through the forest, learn how Native Americans and early settlers utilized the forest for survival. A naturalist will identify wildlife in view and share how they adapt to the cooler months. Pass through a sea of grass and hear how the Nature Center protects the prairie. The West Fork of the Trinity River curves and snakes through our property and serves as a reminder of how we are connected and how we share resources.

So, join us, take a break from the ordinary, and experience the extraordinary this holiday season.