

# Texas Game Warden Training Center

Texas Game Warden. ... It's a job as big as Texas. For over 100 years, Texas Game Wardens have exemplified passion, dedication, and commitment to protecting the natural resources of Texas. As fully commissioned peace officers, game wardens not only enforce fishing, hunting and boating safety laws but also assist other state and local law enforcement agencies with apprehending dangerous criminals. They often take the lead in search-and-rescue operations on the state's bays and lakes. New funding from the Texas Legislature has moved them to the front lines of the state's border security initiative.

Texas Game Wardens are widely recognized as the best-trained corps of conservation officers in the country and are frequently called on to provide training to other states. Since the first Texas Game Wardens arrived on the scene in 1895, the game warden force has increased to nearly 500 in response to a growing population and increasing demands to protect the state's natural resources. Each year, a select class of cadets attends the Game Warden Academy to receive intensive training in a broad spectrum of topics: conservation, criminal justice, water safety, penal code and environmental laws.

Excellence on the job requires training facilities that support the agency's commitment to producing the best natural-resource law enforcement officers in the nation. In order to meet the requirements of modern conservation law enforcement, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is constructing a new, state-of-the-art Game Warden Training Center to be located on 220 acres in Hamilton County. The new training center will consolidate the classroom curriculum, the field training (in firearms instruction, water safety and rescue, homeland security and physical endurance), and the required Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) in-service training by bringing all components together into one central location.

To meet core training requirements, the Game Warden Training Center facilities include administration and education buildings, a defensive tactics and physical fitness gymnasium, an armory and firing range, a modern water safety and rescue training facility, an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC), a running track and obstacle course, and a maintenance building. Additional features include a dining hall, an infirmary/recreation/laundry building, staff residences and a helipad, as well as renovations to existing dormitories and guest lodging. All buildings will exhibit the old Texas fort-style motif and will be designed according to the principles of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. LEED is a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

Private donations and corporate sponsorships are vital to the realization of the Game Warden Training Center. Your contribution will support the commitment of Texans to protecting the people and natural resources of the Lone Star State. We invite you to join us in this innovative project and make a positive difference in conservation law enforcement in Texas.

Duty

Passion

Dedication

Courage

Integrity

Service

