



PORT ARANSAS
—NATURE PRESERVE—
At Charlie's Pasture

Mission:
Preserve History,
Protect Habitat,
Promote Harmony
with Nature

HOURS OF OPERATION

open from dawn to dusk,
7 days a week.
Plan to leave
the Nature Preserve
before darkness falls

***Remember - take only pictures,
leave only footprints!***

Thank you, and visit often!

A bit of history...

The Port Aransas Nature Preserve at Charlie's Pasture encompasses 1,217 acres. Charlie Bujan was born on Mustang Island on Sept 6, 1906. His father, Matteo Bujan, settled on the island in 1885. Charlie had a herd of about 250 cattle that ran on the island for many years until the law required cattle to be fenced in. The land he leased from the State of Texas extended from the current Charlie's Pasture pier to the end of the island at East Flats. He moved his cattle onto the lease and built stock pens across from the pier. Charlie's Pasture was also the place where, as far back as the 1950's, island youngsters hung out or spent many a night camping out under the stars. Charlie's Pasture is a major part of the local heritage on Mustang Island. In May 2002, the City began an effort to preserve this section of natural habitat, enlisting the talents and ideas of many local residents and area agencies. The Port Aransas Nature Preserve at Charlie's Pasture is truly a gift for future generations – a sense of history, a study of habitat and an appreciation of nature at its best.

Safety

All Federal and State regulations and Port Aransas City ordinances apply in the Nature Preserve, including the prohibition of fireworks and other explosives.

The unlicensed possession of a firearm or the discharge of a firearm is prohibited.

Glass containers are not allowed.

Animals, reptiles and poisonous plants are not controlled in the Nature Preserve, so please watch your step.

Please stay on designated trails.

Enjoyment

Fishing and bait catching are allowed only in areas along bulkhead, revetment or Piper Channel. Hunting or trapping is not allowed.

Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy it. Please place litter in trash containers.

Alcohol is not allowed.

Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied and supervised by an adult, 18 years or older.

Preservation

Wildlife is protected within the Nature Preserve - do not injure or harm.

Collecting or disturbing plants or animals is not permitted without prior permission for approved teaching or research activity.

Fires, gathering firewood, and smoking are not permitted.

Only service animals are permitted within the Nature Preserve. Please do not bring other pets into the Nature Preserve area.

Sound equipment or taped calls to attract wildlife are not allowed.

**Make the most of your time
at the
Port Aransas
Nature Preserve**

As a general rule, you will enjoy your visit most if, depending on the time of year, you:

- wear comfortable walking shoes and appropriate attire
- carry water
- use insect repellent and sunscreen
- carry a cell phone for emergencies (*turn to "off" or silent mode in the Nature Preserve*)
- respect others' use by remaining quiet
- respect rights of adjacent landowners
- use only designated entrances and trails.

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Please report any problems during your visit to *Parks & Recreation Dept* 361-749-4158. Describe the problem and its location as exactly as you can and include your name and telephone number so we can follow up with you. **For life-threatening or other very serious problems, call 911.**

Any infraction of a duly adopted Nature Preserve rule constitutes a misdemeanor and is punishable by law.