

March 31, 2023

We recently received an inquiry from Region 7 regarding teacher training, and the potential of visiting Synergy Park in Kilgore. The park is a unique place: an industrial business park that is built around a 10 acre, 34' deep lake in a natural setting. It is owned and managed by the Synergy Park Property Owners Association (SPPOA). We are one of those owners and act as administrator for the SPPOA.

The association has worked with the City of Kilgore to open the nature trails around Elder Lake to the public during daylight hours. Anyone, including field trip students, and teachers, is welcome. However, this is not a typical city park that is taken care of in the manner of a traditional public park.

This is a nature park...complete with water moccasins, copperheads and other denizens of the forest. It also has an abundant share of poison ivy, poison oak and sumac. The SPPOA has purposely decided to leave the park native. The only grooming done is along the 1 mile of trails that extend through the woods around the lake. There is no playground equipment, and picnic tables are scattered along the trails. The pavilion cannot be reserved. The only area strictly off-limits is the backside of the dam because of the need to maintain the trees and plants in that area to preserve the integrity of the dam for the future. There is also limited public parking available, so an initial planning visit may be beneficial.

So long as Region 7, its educators, teachers, and staff know about the natural setting of Synergy Park, realize the liability associated with this park, and take adequate precautions, we welcome your groups to come.

Thank you. I hope you have a great end of school!

Respectfully,

Stephanie Moore
Property Director