

Faerie Trail Guidelines

2021 Woodland Faerie Trail at Zilker Botanical Garden

1. Faerie homes should reflect the romantic, magical, surprising, and natural spirit of the folk who will live in them!

2. Faerie homes should be built to withstand a full Texas summer, since the Woodland Faerie Trail will be in place from May 29th and through the Summer.

3. All faerie architects and contractors should be respectful of the existing living species in the garden. Please do not injure or uproot living plants, such as ferns, mosses, and flowers.

4. Mounting your home to a base of up to 4' square is a good thing to include if you have features outside the dwelling (such as swings, gardens, and benches, etc.). Bases can be made of plywood or tree cookies (a cross section of a tree stump). Please be sure that if you choose to mount your home to a base, that the entire base be hidden or will blend in with the natural elements.

5. Do not use any living plants in your faerie home and surroundings. Unfortunately, faeries are notoriously bad at housekeeping, and tend not to water their own house plants enough to keep them beautiful all summer long.

6. **Approved Materials for Use in building:**

- Sticks
- Pebbles/rocks
- Dead leaves
- Bark
- Dry grasses
- Feathers
- Pinecones
- Nuts
- Clay
- Shells
- Anything naturally occurring around your home, office or school

7. **Please DO NOT use these and other artificial materials:**

- Craft foam
- Plastic
- Nylon and polyester fabric
- Styrofoam
- Faerie lights or other electric lighting (lights powered by solar energy are allowed)

8. Faerie homes may be any size you wish as long as you do not exceed the size of your plot. (Up to 4'x4')

9. Faerie architects and contractors can install their homes during the week of May 22-28.

You will be e-mailed an official calendar to register for your installation within the first week of May, by **publicprograms@zbgconservancy.org**. There will be set dates and times available for sign-up. You may choose to visit your plot earlier than that to better incorporate your home into your specific environment.

10. We rely on faerie architects to retrieve their homes at the closing of the exhibit in August. Please plan on reclaiming your home for next year's faeries or use it to creation a permanent insect hotel in your personal garden (vital for attracting pollinators like butterflies, bees and other helpful critters) after the Exhibit closes.

11. The Woodland Faerie Trail is a place of magic, free from political overtones. Please help us keep the Trail magical and do not include political or offensive messaging or themes.

12. We reserve the right to decline any Faerie home that does not meet the standards described above.

If you have any questions about how to create, install, maintain or reclaim your Faerie home, please e-mail **publicprograms@zbgconservancy.org**, or call **512-477-8672 ext.12**.

"The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper." -W.B. Yeats

The 2021 Faerie Trail has been brought to you in partnership by the City of Austin, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department and the Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy.

