



DECEMBER EVENTS 2019



Friends of the San Pedro River

River Walks

The San Pedro River features some of the richest wildlife habitat in the Southwest. Here you'll find 82 species of mammals, dozens of different reptiles and amphibians and nearly 350 species of birds. In addition, the river supports one of the largest cottonwood-willow forest canopies remaining in Arizona and is one of the last free-flowing rivers in the Southwest.

The interpretive river walks are usually 1.5 to 2 miles long over easy terrain, including sections where the trail is uneven and rough. They are slower paced than a hike and suitable for most adults and children. Walks are free, although donations are accepted.

**Every Saturday:
Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28**

River walks depart from the San Pedro House at **9:00am**

Bird Walks

The San Pedro River is considered one of the largest and most critical avian migratory corridors remaining in the western United States. The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) provides habitat for over 100 species of breeding birds, and provides water, food and shelter for another 250 species of migratory and wintering birds.

Birders, novice or experienced, are invited to attend any of the listed bird walks to introduce them to the diverse avian community found in the SPRNCA. Observe 30 - 60 species on these popular two to three hour bird walks. Free, although donations are accepted.

**Wed., Dec. 4, 11, 18, 25
Saturday, Dec. 28**

Bird walks depart from the San Pedro House at **9:00am***

**note later start time*

EOP BIRD WALKS

The Sierra Vista **Environmental Operations Park (EOP)**, also known as the Sierra Vista Wastewater Wetlands, has been opened to public tours on Sunday mornings, all year round.

Group size is limited to 20 people and two leaders, on a first come-first serve basis. Arrive before the starting hour, and sign the waiver right away to secure a place. Walk is behind locked gates for 2-2.5 hours, and you must stay with the group the entire walk. Bring water, hat, and binoculars. A spotting scope is optional. A checklist will be provided.

**Every Sunday:
Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

Meet at 8:00am

at the EOP viewing platform parking lot
(Turn North off Hwy 90 between MM 324 and 325)

Take a walk back in time...on one of our docent led *History Hikes*

December 7, 10:00am • CLANTON RANCH

Hike with our docents to the Clanton Ranch. You will learn about the Clanton family before, during and after the infamous gunfight at the OK Corral, why they came to the San Pedro River Valley, and why they chose this location for a ranch. This 2 hour hike covers 1.5 miles (total) on a dirt trail, ending in a rocky, uphill section of unimproved path. Wear a hat and bring plenty of water. The hike will meet at the Escapule Wash parking area within the SPRNCA. Go east from Sierra Vista on Charleston Road and turn south on Escapule Road. The parking lot is approximately 1.2 miles south on Escapule Road, a dirt, rectangular area with pipe fences on the east (left) side of the road.



December 14, 1:00pm • GRAND CENTRAL MILL

Grand Central mill processed ore from the mines in Tombstone. It is located 1.25 miles north of Fairbank. Our docent will lead the hike, explaining the history of the site and showing the foundations of the mill. The trail is gravel and uneven, with some uphill stretches. There is some shade, but it can be hot. Dress for the weather, wear good walking shoes and a hat; bring plenty of water. This 2.5 mile (total) hike will last about 3 hours. Hike departs from the Fairbank Schoolhouse. The Fairbank parking area is about .5 mile east of the San Pedro River on Highway 82, between Tombstone and Whetstone.

December 21, 1:00pm • MILLVILLE RUINS & PETROGLYPH TRAIL

Join the Friends of the San Pedro River for a history hike to the Old West site of Millville. This 2 hour, 2.5 miles (total) hike on gravel trails includes irregular surfaces, uphill sections and crossing a wash. The Corbin and Gird mills processed silver ore mined in Tombstone. These stamp mills on the east side of the river roared day and night for the boom years between 1878 and 1889. It was a boomtown" in every sense of the word - a quick rise and a rapid decline. This site also contains many petroglyphs etched into the rocky hillsides. Please realistically assess your ability to participate. Be prepared for the weather with good shoes, water, and a hat. Meet at the Millville Parking Area; about one quarter mile east of the San Pedro River on the north side of Charleston Road; look for a large fire warning sign.

San Pedro House Books & Gifts

9800 E. Highway 90
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Open Daily: 9:30am - 4:30pm
(520) 508-4445
sanpedrohouse@sanpedroriver.org

Friends of the San Pedro River, Inc.

(520) 459-2555
fspr@sanpedroriver.org
www.sanpedroriver.org

The Fairbank Schoolhouse

Fairbank Historic Townsite
Hwy 82 east of the San Pedro River
Open Fri, Sat, Sun: 9:30am - 4:30pm
(520) 457-3062
schoolhouse@sanpedroriver.org



BIRD WALKS

Departing from the San Pedro House

December 2019

Every Wednesday & 4th Saturday at 9:00am

January & February 2020

Every Wednesday & 4th Saturday at 9:00am

March 2020

Every Wednesday & 4th Saturday at 8:00am

April & May 2020

Every Wednesday & 4th Saturday at 7:00am



HISTORY HIKES

(All on Saturdays)

Dec. 7	10:00am	Clanton Ranch
Dec. 14	1:00pm	Grand Central Mill
Dec. 21	1:00pm	Millville Ruins & Petroglyphs

2020

Jan. 4	1:00pm	Murray Springs Clovis Site
Jan. 11	1:00pm	Clanton Ranch
Jan. 18	1:00pm	Millville Ruins & Petroglyphs
Jan. 25	1:00pm	Fairbank Historic Townsite
Feb. 8	10:00am	Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate
Feb. 15	10:00am	Grand Central Mill
Feb. 22	10:00am	Murray Springs Clovis Site
Feb. 29	10:00am	Clanton Ranch
Mar. 7	10:00am	Millville Ruins & Petroglyphs
Mar. 14	1:00pm	Fairbank Historic Townsite
Mar. 21	9:00am	Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate
Mar. 28	9:00am	Grand Central Mill
Apr. 4	9:00am	Murray Springs Clovis Site
Apr. 11	9:00am	Clanton Ranch
Apr. 18	9:00am	Millville Ruins & Petroglyphs
Apr. 25	9:00am	Fairbank Historic Townsite

INTERPRETIVE RIVER WALKS

Departing from the San Pedro House

Every Saturday:

October through March at 9:00am

April through September at 8:00am

Ramsey Canyon Christmas Bird Count (AZRC) Sunday, December 15, 2019

Thanks to amazing volunteers and excellent birders, the AZRC is among the most well-covered circles in Arizona. This circle has amazing potential with impressive species diversity and varied habitats ranging from the San Pedro River corridor, to the vast freshwater marshes of the EOP, to extensive mesquite grasslands, to pine-oak-sycamore canyons, all the way up to the montane conifer zones of the Huachuca Mountains. Feeder-watchers are always welcome.

**For more information, or to get involved,
please contact the compiler:**

Ken Blankenship
kenblankenshipbirding@gmail.com
(770) 317-8486

For Hikes and Walks:

- Wear appropriate attire for hiking and walking and current weather conditions. Wear good hiking shoes. Wear a hat, sunscreen and insect repellent (when necessary).
- Bring at least one quart of water per person. Bring a snack for longer walks and hikes.
- Dogs should be left at home unless well behaved and not disruptive to the tour. Dogs are not allowed on Bird Walks.

Schedule subject to change

There is **no charge** for the walks; however, donations are accepted to support the docent programs.

www.sanpedroriver.org (520) 459-2555 fspr@sanpedroriver.org