

NOVEMBER EVENTS 2023

Friends of the San Pedro River



River Walks

The San Pedro River is one of the last freeflowing rivers in the Southwest and home to one of the largest cottonwood-willow riparian forests remaining in Arizona. The river and forest provide habitat for 82 species of mammals, dozens of reptiles and amphibians, and roughly 350 species of birds.

The river walks are 1.5 to 2 miles long over easy terrain, but there are places where the trail is rough. River walks are slower paced than a hike and suitable for most adults and children. All walks are free.

Saturdays, November 4 and 18 River walks depart from the San Pedro House at 9:00am

Bird Walks

The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) provides habitat for over 100 species of breeding birds. The San Pedro River is also a critical avian migration corridor that provides water, food and shelter for another 250 migratory and wintering birds.

Novice and experienced bird watchers attend our bird walks to view the diverse avian community of the SPRNCA. We usually observe 30 - 60 species on these popular two-to-three-hour walks. Bring water, hat and binoculars. All are welcome, but the walks may not be suitable for young children. No dogs, please. All walks are free.

Wednesdays, November 8 and 22 Bird walks depart from the San Pedro House at 7:00am

EOP BIRD WALKS

The Sierra Vista Environmental Operations Park (EOP) is open to public bird watching tours on Sunday mornings year round. Group size is limited to 15 people, first-come, first-served. Arrive before the starting time to sign a waiver and secure a spot. The 2-2.5 hours walk is behind locked gates and you must stay with the group. Bring water, hat, and binoculars. A bird checklist will be provided. All walks are free.

Sundays, November 5, 12, 19, 26 Meet at 7:00am at the EOP viewing platform parking lot (Turn North off Hwy 90 between mile markers 324 and 325)

Take a walk back in time ... on one of our docent-led History Walks

History Walk to Clanton Ranch, Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m.

Join a docent from the Friends of the San Pedro River for a walk to the Clanton Ranch site. Here Old Man Clanton grazed (stolen) cattle in a large pasture along the San Pedro. This site was a key location in the Wyatt Earp vs. The Cowboys epic. The round trip to the site requires 1.5 miles of walking total. The trail is uneven gravel and dirt. The last 100 feet or so are up a gradual hill on a rocky, uneven trail. Make sure you are able to handle this walk. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes, and bring water and a snack. Meet at the parking area for the Escapule Road SPRNCA access point, located on Escapule Road, about 1.5 miles south of Charleston Road, between Sierra Vista and Tombstone. Look for a gravel parking area on the left (north) side of Escapule Road. It is the first left after you turn off of Charleston Road onto Escapule Road. For more information, call (520) 508-4445 or email fspr@sanpedroriver.org.

History Walk to Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate, Saturday, November 11, 9 a.m.

Join a docent from the Friends of the San Pedro River on a walking tour of the Spanish Presidio of Santa Cruz de Terrenate. This fort was operational during the late 1770s, the centerpiece for a planned Spanish occupation of the San Pedro River Valley that failed. This is a three-mile round trip walk over trails and uneven ground. The return walk is gradually uphill. There is no shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes, and bring water and a snack. Meet at the Presidio Parking Area (west side of the San Pedro River on Highway 82, turn north on In Balance Ranch Road (shows as Kellar Rd. on Google Maps), go 1 mile to parking area). For more information, call (520) 508-4445 or email fspr@sanpedroriver.org.

San Pedro House History Walk, Sunday, November 12, 9 a.m.

Join us for a tour of the San Pedro House. Our Friends docent will discuss the history of the house as part of the Little Boquillas Ranch and the Foster family that lived there in the 1940s. The group will then tour the area around the house looking at historic remnants from its time as a ranch house. The tour entails about ¼ mile of walking over level trails. The tour will last about an hour. Meet a few minutes before the start time at the San Pedro House, located near the San Pedro River in the SPRNCA, about 8 miles east of Sierra Vista on State Route 90. For information call (520) 508-4445 or email spr@sanpedroriver.org.

History Walk to Grand Central Mill, Saturday, November 18, 9 a.m.

Meet a docent from the Friends of the San Pedro River for a tour of this historic silver mill site. The docent will discuss the mining history of the area and lead the group on a three-mile round trip walk to the mill site. This walk follows a dirt and gravel trail that is uneven in areas. There is limited shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. Wear a hat, walking shoes and bring water. Meet at the Fairbank School House, in Fairbank, 10 miles east of Whetstone on Highway 82. Look for the sign for the Fairbank townsite parking area on the north side of the highway. For more information, call (520) 508-4445 or email fspr@sanpedroriver.org.

History Walk to Murray Springs, Saturday, November 25, 10 a.m.

Join docents from the Friends of the San Pedro River for a tour of the Murray Springs mammoth kill site. Vance Haynes led an expedition here in the 1970s that found the remains of megafauna that had been hunted, killed, butchered, and consumed by the Clovis Paleo-Indians 13,000 years ago. This is an easy walk of less than a half mile, though it does include dirt steps into and out of a dry wash. There is no shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes, and bring water and a snack. Meet in the parking area at Murray Springs, about 1.5 miles north of highway 90 on Moson Road (just west of the Sierra Vista EOP.) NOTE: there is no sign marking this road, but it is the only road headed east from Moson in this vicinity. For more information, call (520) 508-4445 or email fspr@sanpedroriver.org.

San Pedro House

Nature Store & Visitor Information 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 Fairbank Schoolhouse Museum

9800 E. Highway 90, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 (520) 459-2555 fspr@sanpedroriver.org www.sanpedroriver.org

Fairbank Historic Townsite Hwy 82 east of the San Pedro River Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (520) 457-3062 schoolhouse@sanpedroriver.org