



# Friends of the San Pedro River

## San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area

### September, 2024, Events Calendar

#### Schedule

##### Nature Walks:

Saturday, September 7, San Pedro House, 8 am

**NOTE:** History Walks will resume in the fall.

##### FSPR Bird Walks:

Wednesday, September 11, 7 am, San Pedro House

Wednesday, September 25, 7 am, San Pedro House

*For all walks: Free and open to the public. No reservations are required. Please realistically assess your ability to do these walks – some are in remote areas far from help. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and a snack. Well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome on all but the birdwatching walks. Children are welcome but younger ones will have their patience tested.*

#### Nature Walks

**San Pedro House, 8 am Saturday, September 7.** The San Pedro River is one of the last free flowing rivers in the Southwest and home to one of the largest cottonwood-willow riparian forests remaining in Arizona. On this walk we will discuss the interactions of the components that make up the ecosystem of the river and its importance to the surrounding area. The walks are 1.5 to 2 miles long over easy terrain. These are slower paced than a hike and suitable for most adults and children. The San Pedro House is located 7 miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90, on the south side of the highway. It is searchable in Google Maps.

#### FSPR Bird Walks

**San Pedro House, Wednesday, September 11, 7 am, and Wednesday, September 25, 7 am.** The SPRNCA provides habitat for over 100 species of breeding birds. The San Pedro River is also a critical 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 area. We usually observe 30-60 species on these popular walks, which last approximately three hours. Bring water, a hat, and binoculars. These walks can be moderately difficult on uneven terrain. The San Pedro House is located 7 miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90, on the south side of the highway. It is searchable in Google Maps.

#### **SPECIAL EVENT, Saturday, September 21, 8 am, Fairbank Schoolhouse**

Please join us for a special botanical walk with Liz Makings, botanist and expert in Southwestern flora from Arizona State University. Liz is likely the world expert on the plants of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. This walk will be along the 4-mile loop trail at Fairbank. The trail is not difficult but does include stretches of uneven terrain. Be sure to wear appropriate clothing, shoes, and sunscreen, and bring your lunch and plenty of water. Because of the length of the hike, there will be a break for lunch along the trail. This walk will be a basic introduction to plant parts, including how to tell the difference between spines, thorns, and prickles, as an example. With the help of the rain we've had this monsoon, we should see an abundance of plant species. Meet at the Fairbank Schoolhouse Museum. Please come early, as we hope to limit the number of guests to 20, first come, first served. No dogs, please. Park in the outer lot and use the fenced trail to walk to the schoolhouse. "Fairbank AZ" is searchable in Google Maps. Free and open to the public.

*For more information on these or other events, call (520) 508-4445 or email [fspr@sanpedroriver.org](mailto:fspr@sanpedroriver.org).*