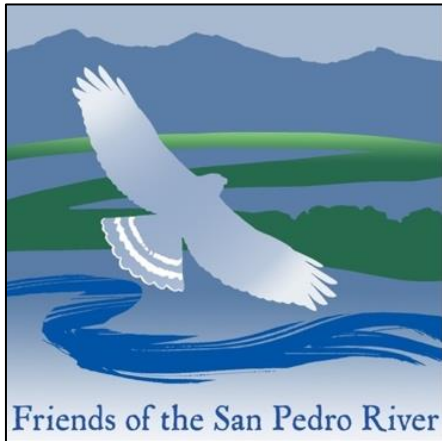


# Celebrate the San Pedro! Event Guide



## Quick Links

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## **The Basics**

**Who:** Everyone is invited to our free event!

**What:** A festival with talks, displays, tours, walks, kids' activities

**Where:** The San Pedro House, eight miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90. Addressable in Google Maps.

**When:** Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to 1 pm

**Why:** To celebrate springtime on the San Pedro River!

**Questions?** Call us at (520) 459-2555 or email at [fspr@sanpedroriver.org](mailto:fspr@sanpedroriver.org)

## **Quick Links**

### **Schedule**

**7:00 am:** Birders gather to start the species count

**9:00 am:** Celebrate the San Pedro! begins at the San Pedro House

Informational displays are open for viewing

Guided San Pedro House history tour begins

Kids' rock painting project and crafts begin

Kid's nature scavenger hunt begins

**9:15 am:** Speakers' Series begins

**9:30 am:** First guided nature hike begins

Guided xeriscape garden tour begins

**10:30 am:** Second guided nature walk begins

Online orders from Borderlands Restoration Network &

Nursery may be picked up 10:30-11:30

**11:00 am:** Bird counting stops and participants return to San Pedro House.

Guided pollinator garden tour begins

**11:30 am:** Bird species tally starts

**12:45 pm:** Birding docents announce the species count and the top team

**1:00 pm:** Celebrate the San Pedro! ends for another year.

## **Quick Links**

## Big Morning Birding Challenge

This fun early morning birding event will be led by FSPR birding docents at multiple spots in the SPRNCA. Anyone can participate.

The five birding teams will meet at 7 am at five different locations in the SPRNCA and birdwatch until 11 am, then head back to the San Pedro House by 11:30 am for the bird tally to see which team found the most species. The winning team will be announced at 12:45 pm. This challenge is open to birders of all experience levels and is focused on having fun and learning about our local and migrating birds. No dogs, please. Even if you don't get to bird, stop by the Birds of the SPRNCA table for birding information, stories and more.

To join the birding challenge, meet one of the teams at 7 am:

1. San Pedro House, located on the south side of Highway 90, just before the San Pedro River, about 8 miles east of Sierra Vista. The San Pedro House has bathroom facilities and a large parking lot.
2. Hereford Bridge Trailhead parking lot. The turn off to the lot is about 200 yards west of the San Pedro River; the turn-off is well signed. Note: the lot is about 100 yards south of Hereford Road – it is not one of the pull-offs by the beginning of the guardrails of the bridge. The trailhead has bathrooms and ample parking. We will meet there.
3. Waters Road access point, located off Palominas Road east on Waters Road, where the road turns to the right and becomes Yell Lane. This is right next to the Casa de San Pedro B&B. There are quite a few parking spaces at this pull-off. The Waters Road access point does not have bathrooms. The nearest bathrooms on SPRNCA property are at the Hereford Bridge trailhead, about a 7-minute drive away.
4. Escapule Wash pull-offs, located along Escapule Road, about 0.3 miles from the intersection of Charleston and Escapule Roads. These dirt pull-offs are located where the road crosses the large dry wash in a dip. This is a great area for birds and is a bit more of a challenging walk. Parking is limited and there are no bathrooms. The nearest SPRNCA bathrooms are at Millville, which is about a 3-minute drive.
5. Millville Trailhead, located on the north side of Charleston Road, 0.3 miles east of the San Pedro River crossing. This is not the popular parking area on the south side of Charleston Road next to the old bridge, but

rather, if coming from Sierra Vista, travel just under 0.3 miles further from there, and look for the open gate on the left side of the road. There is a large fire danger warning sign by the entrance. Park by the bathrooms, to the left of the entrance.

Please note: All birding activities are free of charge to participants, but you must bring your own binoculars, water, and any snacks you need to keep you going. No registration is needed; just show up at one of the locations by 7:00 am.

## Quick Links

### Activities Primarily for Kids

**Rock Painting – 9 am – 1 pm.** Kids can help create a rattlesnake made up of painted rocks, which will be placed in one of the xeriscape garden pods. We will provide supplies and the head and tail. Artists will be able to wash up after they have completed their creation.

**Coloring – 9 am – 1 pm.** We will offer coloring pages and supplies for our youngest artists and an individual nature-themed craft for older kids. Our volunteers will be on hand to assist and get everyone started.

**Scavenger Hunt – 9 am - 12:30 pm.** Kids begin the “Gifts of Nature” scavenger hunt at this station with a pencil and checklist of things to find but not take and then hit the trails to find them. This is a great family activity and encourages young people to observe their surroundings while outdoors in nature. Return to the station with your checklist and get your reward.

## Quick Links

## Activities for Everyone

**Nature Walk – 9:30 am.** Join our Friends of the San Pedro River natural history docents for a hike to the San Pedro River. Along the way, they will talk about the plants and animals that live along the river. Be prepared to hike by wearing a hat, sunscreen, closed-toe footwear and by bringing water and snacks to keep you going. This is an easy walk on good trails, and a great chance to learn about the fauna and flora of the SPRNCA.

**Note –** A second nature walk to the river will start at 10:30 am.

## Quick Links

## Activities Primarily for Adults

**Guided San Pedro House History Tour – 9:00 am.** One of the FSPR cultural history docents will give a tour of the San Pedro House and talk about the past of this former ranch house and its residents.

**Guided Xeriscape Garden Tour – 9:30 am.** Tour the xeriscape garden with an Arizona Native Plant Society member to see and learn why native, desert-adapted plants do well in our arid environment. They require less water and care, supply food and shelter for wildlife, attract insects and pollinators, and have some interesting interactions with nearby plants.

**Guided Pollinator Garden Tour – 11:00 am.** The FSPR garden team have created a beautiful pollinator garden. Our AZNPS guide will talk about the plants and how they attract different pollinators and why pollinators are so beneficial to our desert ecosystems. We have six species of milkweed growing to attract Monarch butterflies, whose populations are in severe decline.

**Native Plant Pickup from Borderlands Restoration Network & Nursery (Online sales only) 10:30 am – 11:30 am.** The BRN&N truck will be parked in the back corner of the big parking lot, and Perrin will distribute plants after her 10:30 am talk, which will last 15 to 20 minutes at most, so be sure to listen to her speech in the big event ramada first!

## Quick Links

## Informational Displays

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm.** There will be several stations set up by various history and conservation-related organizations on the trails around the San Pedro House.

1. **Bureau of Land Management.** The BLM is the manager of the SPRNCA, the Las Cienegas Riparian National Conservation Area, the Gila Box, and thousands of acres of other Federal lands in Southeast Arizona. They will be on hand to provide information on these areas and how to enjoy them.
2. **Southeastern Arizona Museum of Science & Technology.** Exhibits from Southeastern Arizona will be on display, as well as information about the museum, its offerings, and activities.
3. **Murray Springs Clovis Site.** This is one of the premiere archaeological sites in North America, and it is located in the SPRNCA. Our cultural docents for Murray Springs will be on site to show you a collection of replica points and other items and to discuss the site with you.
4. **Arizona Native Plant Society.** Our AZNPS volunteer will be available to guide the xeriscape and pollinator garden tours and to answer questions about native plants.
5. **Birds of the SPRNCA.** A Southwest Wings representative will be on hand to answer questions about birding in the SPRNCA, other local birding sites, birding events, and more.
6. **FSPR Information.** The FSPR President and Operations Manager, Ron and Renell Stewart, will be happy to answer questions about the Friends of San Pedro River, the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, San Pedro House, and the Friends' partnership with the Bureau of Land Management. They will have Celebrate the San Pedro! schedule, map, and flyers so you can plan your visit.
7. **Cochise County Search & Rescue Team.** Members will be on hand to answer questions about their training and rescue efforts, how to be safe in the desert, and how you should prepare for a hike. They will also provide first aid if anyone becomes injured, dehydrated or heat-stressed.
8. **Borderlands Master Naturalists Chapter.** Two members of the Borderlands chapter will be on hand to discuss the Arizona Master Naturalist Association program, the Borderlands Master Naturalist Chapter, its activities, and their upcoming fall training class.
9. **The Xerces Society.** A representative of The Xerces Society will have information about the society and its activities, local butterflies, and the

need to give our flying friends a helping hand. Who doesn't love butterflies?

10. **Old Pueblo Archaeology.** Be sure to stop by this station and learn more about the archaeology of Southeast Arizona and the ancient art of flintknapping. Old Pueblo staff will be happy to answer your questions, about the incredible depth of human history in our area and their educational programs and public site visits.
11. **City of Bisbee, Camp Naco Project.** Local history buffs will be interested in the history of Camp Naco and plans for its restoration. There will be information about the project, community outreach efforts, fundraising, and more.
12. **The Nature Conservancy.** Most of you are familiar with Ramsey Canyon, which is owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy. TNC has conducted many projects in southeastern Arizona, and you can learn about some of them.
13. **Watershed Management Group.** Learn about this conservation organization, its beaver restoration and other projects, community outreach programs, and educational activities for learners of all ages.
14. **Reptile Exhibit** – See rattlesnakes and other desert reptiles up close, and marvel at the beautiful colors and patterns of their scales.
15. **Nature Displays** - Our Bone Box will be on display to help kids of all ages learn about the animals that live in the San Pedro Valley. Items include skulls and tracks, along with other educational displays. Our education docents will be on hand to help people understand what they are seeing and to learn more.
16. **San Pedro History Illustration Boards.** A labor of love and of history by one of our talented FSPR board members, is the best way to describe this offering. The history boards will be set up on the front porch of the San Pedro House and hopefully, the wind will leave them be! An interesting stop, for sure!

## Quick Links

## Speakers

1. **Joanne Roberts, MC, and Ron Stewart, FSPR President.** Welcome and introduction to the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area
2. **Colleen Dingman, Bureau of Land Management, Director of Tucson Field Office.** Update on SPRNCA projects
3. **Marty Alred, Cochise County Sheriff Department Search & Rescue Team.** Marty will talk about how to be safe in a desert environment.
4. **Sherry Eisler and Sam Greenleaf, Old Pueblo Archaeology.** The Hohokam People and Flintknapping
5. **Perrin McNelis, Borderlands Restoration Network & Nursery.** BRN&N's contributions to restoring desert ecosystems in the borderlands
6. **Kim McReynolds, Wilcox Office of Cooperative Extension of the University of Arizona.** Invasive Species
7. **Haylee Short, The Nature Conservancy.** Wet-dry mapping of the San Pedro River
8. **Watershed Management.** Watershed Management has conducted beaver surveys on the San Pedro River, and they will share their results. Nadira Mitchell will be the presenter.
9. **Sky Island Alliance.** Zach Palma will discuss projects that Sky Island Alliance has done on the upper watershed of the San Pedro River in Sonora, Mexico.
10. **Camp Naco Project.** Becky Orozco and Christine Rhodes will speak about the City of Bisbee's project to restore this historic site.
11. **The Celebrate the San Pedro! Big Morning of Birding Challenge.** Discover how many bird species can be seen in 4 hours at select sites in the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area and see which of the 5 teams saw the most species!

Note: Each talk will last 15 -20 minutes. The schedule is flexible.

## Quick Links