Friends of the San Pedro River
San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area
December 2026 Events Calendar

Starting point for all walks is in the description

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. Participants must sign a liability waiver before the walks start.*

Nature Walks

San Pedro House, Saturdays, December 5 and 19, both at 9 am. 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 on Google Maps.

FSPR Bird Walks

San Pedro House, Wednesdays, December 9 and 23, both at 8 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 walks, which last approximately three hours. Bring your own binoculars if you can. 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 on Google Maps.

Explore the History of the San Pedro River Valley on one of our December

Friends of the San Pedro River *History Walks*

History Walk at Fairbank, Saturday, December 12, 1 pm

Tour the ghost town of Fairbank to learn about the history of the area and enjoy some time outdoors. Fairbank dates to 1882, when it grew up around a train depot – the closest to Tombstone. An optional walk to the cemetery concludes the tour. The trail to the cemetery is short but includes an uphill section with poor footing and loose rock. The walk around the townsite including the optional walk to the cemetery is about one mile in total. You are welcome to participate in the tour and not go to the cemetery. The tour meets in front of the Schoolhouse at the Fairbank Townsite. The entrance to the parking area is on the north side of the highway about 0.5 mile east of the San Pedro River bridge. Park in the outer lot and use the fenced trail to walk to the schoolhouse. “Fairbank AZ" is searchable on Google Maps.

History Walk to Murray Springs, Saturday, December 26, 9 am

Join docents from the Friends of the San Pedro River for a tour of the Murray Springs mammoth kill site. Discovered by Dr. C. Vance Haynes from the University of Arizona in 1966, Murray Springs contained not only fossils from mammoth killed by the prehistoric Clovis people, but also projectile points and a bone tool believed to be used to straighten spear shafts. This is an easy walk of less than a half mile, though it does include dirt steps into and out of a dry wash. From E. Highway 90/AZ-90 in Sierra Vista, drive north on Moson Rd. for 1.28 miles and turn east. Meet the docent at the gate to the site. The entrance to the site is searchable as “Murray Springs Clovis Site” on Google Maps.

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