



## August 2017 Newsletter

*Welcome to the Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas (FOSANA) e-newsletter! We share natural areas news, the Friends' efforts, and opportunities to get involved in volunteering or educational programs at San Antonio's natural areas parks. Going forward, we aim to bring you this newsletter quarterly in 2017, at minimum. Please check our website, [www.fosana.org](http://www.fosana.org), for periodic updates and program information.*

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### **Protect Texas Trees**

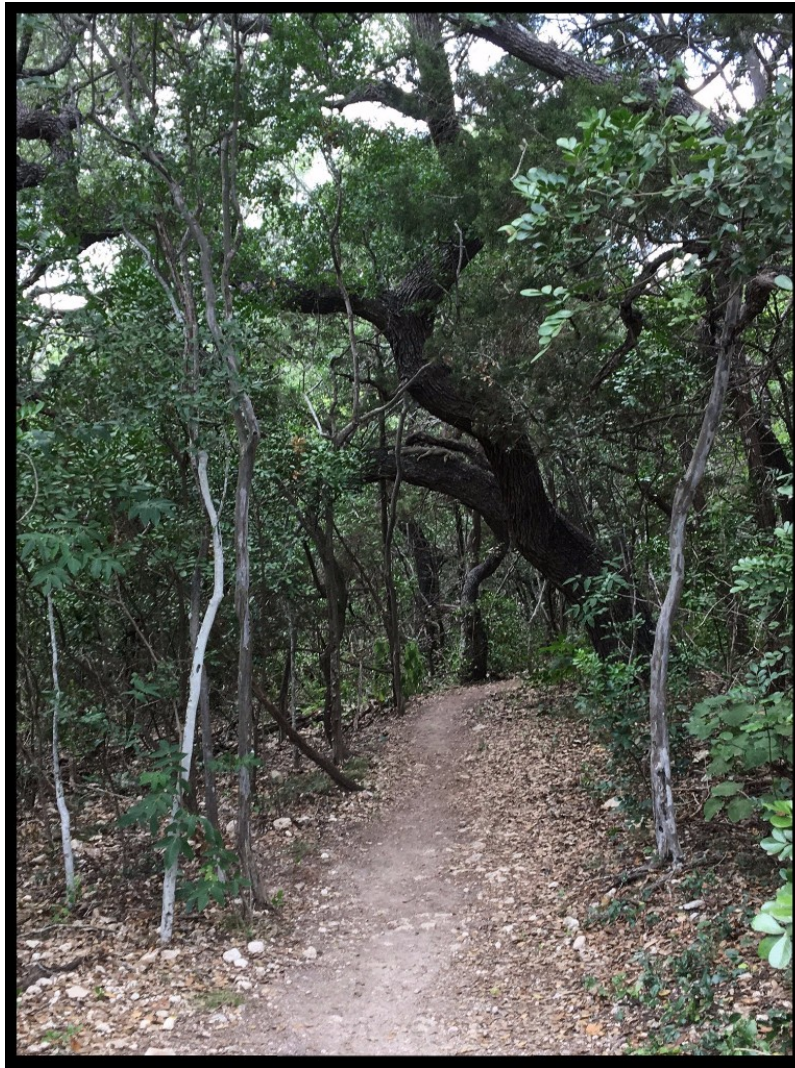
On Wednesday, July 26, 2017, the Texas Senate passed [Senate Bill 14](#) that would ban local tree ordinances. A couple of weeks ago, we notified you of the importance of this legislation for our environment.

The [Rivard Report](#) notes the many benefits of trees and their importance to our community. San Antonio has a [Tree Preservation Ordinance](#) that was established in 1997, and in 2010 established mitigation fees that would encourage homeowners to preserve trees. The current session of the Texas Legislature may revoke local municipalities' right to enforce local city tree ordinances.

Please take a moment to keep informed on this important issue <http://defendtexastrees.org/>

Trees For Texas - <https://www.facebook.com/Trees-For-Texas-557222417633458/>

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**Restoration Trail in Friedrich Wilderness Park with persimmons, mountain laurels and Live oak.**

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### **San Antonio Parks and Recreation Natural Areas Stewardship Activities August 2017**

Likely you already know that there will be a solar eclipse on August 21, 2017, and that everyone in North America plus parts of South America, Africa, and Europe will see (weather permitting) at least a partial solar eclipse. There is a [narrow band within the United States](#) where the total eclipse will be visible

As an interesting twist, a recent episode of the radio program "[A Way with Words](#)" featured some of the terms you will be hearing frequently in reference to the eclipse. For example, during a full solar eclipse people talk about the corona, the sun's outermost atmosphere. According to "A Way with Words," the term corona comes from the Latin word that means "crown" or "garland." Corona is also "the source of *coronation*, as well as the *coronary* arteries that wreath the human heart, and *coroner*, originally an officer of the Crown." Think about that—a coroner is someone who is called when there is a death—how deathlike it can seem when the light of the sun is blocked by the shadow of the moon. According to A Way with Words, "another eclipse-related term, *penumbra*, comes from the Latin for "almost shadow," and refers to the shadow cast by the earth or moon over an area where a partial eclipse is visible. Interestingly, a related word, *umbrage*, means "a sense of offense or resentment." There it is, *umbrage*, another word with dark connotations.

Here's hoping that in August we will all have a little more darkness—in the form of shade! Below is our schedule, with exact locations to be determined as management needs dictate. You must

make a reservation for each work day by e-mailing Jayne Neal at [Jayne.neal@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Jayne.neal@sanantonio.gov). Jayne will confirm your reservation and give you directions to the specific site and the designated parking area. Work sites will not typically have access to water or restrooms. August 3, 17, and 24, 7:30 – 11:00 am, Location to be determined. To reserve a spot, you must contact Jayne Neal, e-mail above.

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## Viewing the Eclipse in San Antonio

Although the path of totality of "Great American Eclipse" bisects the country from Oregon to South Carolina, San Antonio will experience a partial eclipse on August 21, 2017. The last total eclipse visible in the continental United States occurred in 1979 and the next one occurs in 2024.

- The [Scobee Education Center](#) will host a series of activities in the middle of the day to celebrate and educate for this unique event. 1,000 special solar filter glasses have been purchased to distribute while supplies last. Members of the San Antonio College community have been invited to sponsor activities during this event, so the event is anticipated to continue to expand. SAC Student Life, CPS Energy, Flamingo Rey's Island Ice and MWS BBQ & Catering LLC are all joining the Scobee Team with activities and tasty end of the summer treats.
  - If you or your community group is interested in participating as the lead for a related activity in support of this event, please, contact Scobee Planetarium Coordinator **Michelle Risse** at [mrisse2@alamo.edu](mailto:mrisse2@alamo.edu) or [210-486-0101](tel:210-486-0101).
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## Upcoming Natural Areas Events

- **Exploring History through Nature** (recommended ages: 5 & up)
    - 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. | Saturday, August 5
    - Enjoy a family-friendly hike along the trails of Friedrich Wilderness Park. Explore the flora and fauna along Water Trail and Forest Range and learn how Native Americans found everything they needed from the plants and animals around them. Hike will cover approximately one mile. RSVP required. Visit [FOSANA.org](http://FOSANA.org) to register. For more information, call (210) 207-3782 or email [nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov](mailto:nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov)
  - **Starting Out Wild: Water Everywhere** (ages 1-3)
    - 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. | Friday, August 4 & 18
    - Learn about the importance of water through stories, songs, and hands-on fun! These high energy, engaging programs are a perfect way to foster an appreciation of the natural world. It is recommended that a child be walking and a parent or caretaker attend with each child. Most classes will take place outdoors. RSVP required. Visit [FOSANA.org](http://FOSANA.org) to register. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, \$6 per family. For more information, call [210-207-3782](tel:210-207-3782) or email [nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov](mailto:nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov).
  - **Growing Up Wild: Oh Deer** (ages 4-7)
    - 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | Thursday, August 10 & 24
    - Learn about deer and their habitat through games, a guided hike, and hands-on fun! RSVP required. Visit [FOSANA.org](http://FOSANA.org) to register. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, \$6 per family. For more information, call [210-207-3782](tel:210-207-3782) or email [nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov](mailto:nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov).
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## Are you connected to San Antonio Natural Areas on social

**media?** You can like us on [Facebook](#).

Find us on [Instagram](#) @sanaturalareas.

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**Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas is dedicated to promoting stewardship of San Antonio's Natural Areas, and to the understanding and appreciation of nature through educational and scientific programs.**

*For the latest updates and more activities, please see the calendar on the FOSANA website.*

**[Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas Website](#)**

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