



## September 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 monthly in 2017. Please check our website, [www.fosana.org](http://www.fosana.org), for periodic updates and program information.

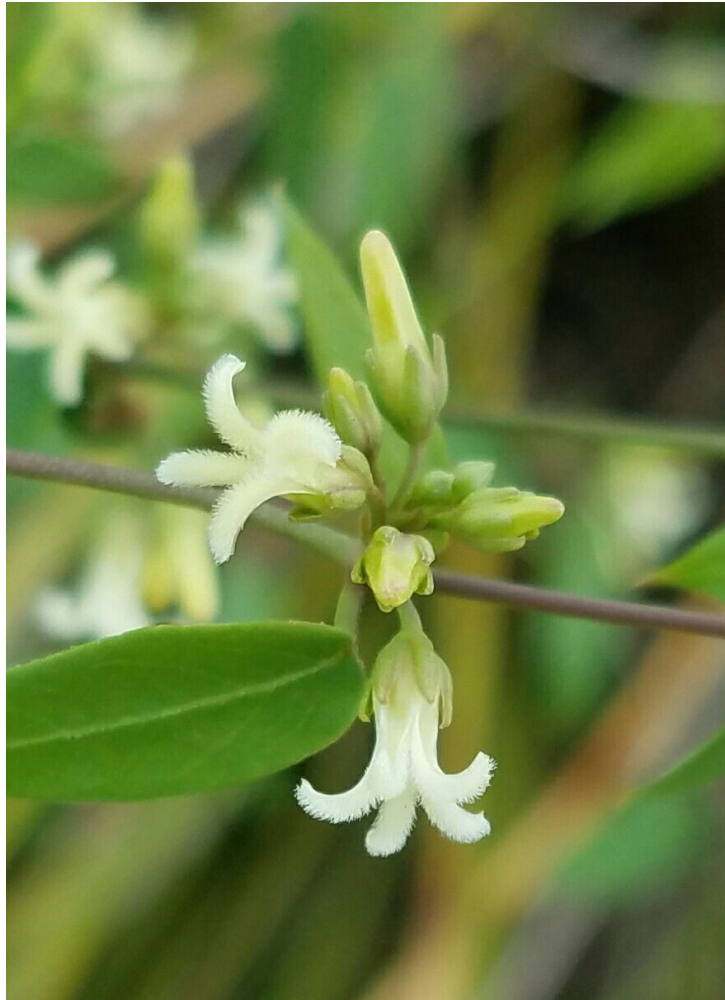
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**'Save the Date':** Saturday, October 21 at Eisenhower Park's Mass Pavilion from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the annual meeting of the Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas. Come meet your fellow members and enjoy some coffee and snacks. Find out what is happening at our natural areas and speak with board members. Let us know about your ideas and concerns. Bring a friend along if you like.

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

During these dog days of summer, it's always a delight to see the persistent plants that find a way to bloom. Among these is the delicate, but definite, milkweed *Cynanchum barbigerum*. Milkweeds often conjure images of plants like antelope horns (*Asclepias asperula*), butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), and maybe green milkweed/pearl vine (*Matelea reticulata*). But there is another less showy milkweed, *Cynanchum barbigerum*. A close-up view of the flower (picture courtesy of Tona Cantu) reveals some spectacular details including a star-shaped flower with fuzzy edges. So where did such a delicate little vine get a name like *Cynanchum*? Look to the [Greek](#): *kynos*, (meaning "like a dog") and *anchein* ("to choke"). When you find this vine in the summertime, you will see the way it drapes itself over shrubs, it might be capable of choking a dog!



To discover and enjoy more little treasures of the Natural Areas while also contributing to their management, feel free to join us on our September work parties. 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.

September 14 and 28, 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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### Upcoming Natural Areas Events

- **First Saturday Hike: Plant Identification** (recommended ages: 8 & up)
  - 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. | Saturday, September 2
  - Explore the beauty of Friedrich Wilderness Park as you take a leisurely hike along Main Loop and Water Trail. This hike will cover nearly 2 miles of trails. RSVP required. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, or \$6 per family. For more information, please call 210-207-3782 or email [nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov](mailto:nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov).
- **Starting Out Wild: Mighty Ants** (ages 1-3)
  - 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. | Friday, September 1 & 15
  - Learn about ants and their habitat 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. 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: Wiggling Worms!** (ages 4-7)

- 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | Thursday, September 14 & 28
- Learn all about worms through games, a guided hike, and hands-on fun! RSVP required. 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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