



December 2018 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. Please check our website, www.fosana.org, for periodic updates and program information.

Giving Tuesday is Tomorrow!

Please [support Friends of San Antonio Natural Areas](http://www.fosana.org) in promoting stewardship of San Antonio's Natural Areas and providing educational programs and opportunities for students and families across San Antonio.

Introducing New Special Projects Manager for Natural Areas

Kelsey Scherschel has joined the Parks and Recreation Department as Special Projects Manager for Natural Areas. She will be overseeing the management of the City of San Antonio's Natural Areas, and comes to San Antonio natural areas parks with a strong background in natural resource management. She most recently worked at Government Canyon State Natural Area, on San Antonio's northwest side, and also brings a diversity of experience having worked across the country with several federal agencies. Kelsey is excited about this opportunity to ensure citizens, both local and wide, are able to enjoy the beautiful and unique natural resources found in the San Antonio area

San Antonio is at the confluence of several major ecoregions, including the South Texas Plains, Edwards Plateau, and Blackland Prairie. Because of this, the San Antonio area has a high diversity of wildlife and plant species. Our Natural Areas work to preserve these natural ecosystems and foster appreciation and experiences between people and nature. Some of the tasks staff and volunteers at Natural Areas carry out include endangered species monitoring, habitat restoration, and outdoor education. Natural Areas tend to be less developed than other parks in San Antonio to allow users the opportunity to enjoy the natural setting. Natural Areas in San Antonio include: Crownridge Canyon Natural Area, Eisenhower Park, Friedrich Wilderness Park, Gold Canyon Park, Phil Hardberger Park, Panther Springs Park, Stone Oak Park, Medina River Natural Area, and Walker Ranch Historic Landmark Park.



Friedrich Wilderness Park (photo courtesy Rob Michaelson)

Upcoming Natural Areas Events

- **Star Party at Eisenhower Park (all ages)**
 - 5:30-8:30 p.m. | Saturday, December 1 | Eisenhower Park Mass Pavilion
- What's to see in the Fall skies? Observe the night skies with the San Antonio Astronomical Association and learn about the planets and the moon. Family-friendly activity included! During inclement weather, be sure to check the calendar as this program may be

cancelled. No reservations needed.

- **Growing Up Wild: Owl Pellets (ages 4-7)**

- 10:00-11:30 a.m. | Wed., December 5 & 19 | Friedrich Wilderness Park classroom

Children will dissect an owl pellet and learn what owls eat. Growing Up Wild builds on a child's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Activities are designed to provide an early foundation and appreciation of nature.

- **Starting Out Wild: Oh Deer! (ages 1-3)**

- 10:00-11:00 a.m. | Friday, December 7 & 21 | Friedrich Wilderness Park classroom

Learn about deer and their habitat! 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.

- **Vermicomposting for Kids (recommended ages 8 & up)**

- 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Sat., December 8 | Friedrich Wilderness Park classroom

Learn how you can recycle your kitchen scraps into excellent soil for your plants—Mother Nature's perfect recycling plan! Learn how to train your very own red wiggler worms to do the work and create a bucket worm bin system. Fee covers all supplies, including red wiggler worms and bins. One set of materials per family.

All programs: Visit FOSANA.org to reserve your spot. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, \$6 per family. For more information, call 210-207-3782 or email nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov.

Are you connected to San Antonio Natural Areas on social media?

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

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

2018
**EISENHOWER PARK
STAR
PARTY**

**OBSERVE THE NIGHT SKIES AND LEARN ABOUT THE
CONSTELLATIONS AND THE PLANETS!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1
5:30PM-8:30PM, 19399 MILITARY HWY
SUGGESTED DONATION: \$3 PER PERSON OR \$6 PER FAMILY**

Presented by the San Antonio Astronomical Association



www.SAPARKSANDREC.COM



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**](#)
