



January 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.

Happy New Year



On the evening of December 7th, San Antonio had a rare occurrence of snow. The next morning the trees were laden with snow that soon melted.



Trail Watch Volunteers Needed—Natural Areas Edition!

San Antonio Parks and Recreation is expanding the popular Trail Watch program to include several Natural Areas park locations. Volunteers are needed at Friedrich Wilderness Park, Crownridge Park, and Eisenhower Park to hike the trails and educate visitors about trail safety, etiquette and park rules as well as hand out water and provide directions. Volunteers will also share general information about the local flora and fauna. We are looking for volunteers:

- Ages 18+
- Who have the ability to hike long distances with a pack weighing 25+ lbs
- Are friendly, outgoing and passionate about parks
- Are willing to commit to at least 4 hours of service a month (Weekends included)

Interested in learning more? Call 210-207-8603 or email Meredith.Tilley@sanantonio.gov. Volunteer orientation dates will be announced in early 2018.

Spring Membership Event Save the Date—March 3rd at Friedrich Wilderness Park!

The FOSANA Board of Directors is partnering with City staff to organize this year's Spring Membership Event. We would love to see you all attend and enjoy informative discussion, guided hikes and much more!

Upcoming Natural Areas Events

- **Starting Out Wild: Pokies & Pricklies** (ages 1-3)
 - 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. | Friday, January 5 and 19 | Friedrich Wilderness Park classroom
 - Learn about the parts of a cactus including the tuna, pad, flower, and spine! 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 take place outdoors. RSVP required. Visit fosana.org to reserve your spot. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, or \$6 per family. For more information, call 210-207-3782 or email nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov.
Registration opens December 22, 2017.
- **First Saturday Hike: Winter Fitness Hike** (recommended ages: 10 & up)
 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Saturday, January 6 | Friedrich Wilderness Park
 - Feel the calming effect of nature with a two-hour fitness hike along Main Loop and Vista Loop trails at Friedrich Wilderness Park. This hike will cover approximately 2 miles of picturesque trails across canyon tops and through meadows and woodlands. Be sure to bring adequate water! RSVP required. Visit fosana.org to reserve your spot. Suggested donation: \$3 per person, or \$6 per family. For more information, call 210-207-3782 or email nicole.mcleod@sanantonio.gov.
 - RSVP required. Visit fosana.org to reserve your spot.
- **Animal Tracks** (ages 4-7)
 - 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | Thursday, January 11 & 25 | Friedrich Wilderness Park classroom

Learn about wild animal tracks through stories, hands-on activities, and a guided hike. 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. RSVP required. 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.

- **Vermicomposting for Beginners** (recommended ages: 6 & up)
 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Saturday, January 13 | Friedrich Wilderness Park (ages 6 & up)
 - 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 wigglers" to do the work and create a bucket worm bin system suitable for indoor use. Fee covers all supplies, including red wiggler worms and bins. One set of materials per family. Visit fosana.org to reserve your spot. Suggested donation: \$10 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.

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](#)
