

RIO BOSQUE NEWS

A newsletter reporting on events at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park

Center for Environmental Resource Management
The University of Texas at El Paso



No. 46

July 2013



El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 personnel install turnout from Riverside Canal to Rio Bosque, April 10, 2013.



Williams Windmill personnel install one of two new windmills at Rio Bosque, April 24, 2013.

TURNOUT, WINDMILLS ARE IN!

April brought two milestones in efforts to get water to Rio Bosque Wetlands Park during the growing season.

First, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 (El Paso No. 1) installed the turnout that will make possible deliveries of Rio Grande Project irrigation water to the park from the adjacent Riverside Canal. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through its Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, funded this work. Other contributors to

the project included the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, which built the connecting channel between the turnout and the park's main water channel, and the Friends of the Rio Bosque, which built the footbridge that now spans the connecting channel. Thanks go to all involved for making this important project possible!

Then, hard on the heels of the turnout installation, Williams Windmill of Lemitar, New Mexico, moved onsite to

Friends of the Rio Bosque Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

- Bosque Buddy (12 and under) \$6
- Student or Senior (62+).....\$10
- Individual.....\$15
- Family\$20
- Bosque Booster\$50
- Cottonwood Commando \$75-\$249
- Restoration Patron..... \$250-\$499
- Wetlands Society \$500-\$999
- Life Member \$1,000

Please make checks payable to *Friends of the Rio Bosque* and mail to: Friends of the Rio Bosque, CERM-UTEP, 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968-0684.



Next Meetings

Thurs., July 25

Thurs., Aug 22

Thurs., Sep 26

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

209-A Burges Hall
UTEP

Info: 915-747-8663

install two new windmills at the park. One is now pumping water to a stand of Goodding willows badly stressed in recent years by drought; the other is supporting a small pocket of developing wetland habitat. Thanks go to Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue for funding the two wells for the windmills and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for funding the windmills!

The windmills are providing water now. Before the turnout can deliver water to the park, though, we will need to develop agreements with water-rights holders who are willing to donate or sell irrigation water to us for use at Rio Bosque. If you fit this description, or know someone who might, we would love to discuss the possibilities with you. Please contact John Sproul (contact info below). ✈

LOOKING OUT FOR THE PARK

When Rio Bosque experienced a run of vandalism and theft this past spring, its friends quickly stepped up to help. When the cover on one of the park's water-control gates was damaged, Innovative Recycling welded it to repair the damage. When vandals tore the railing off one side of a park foot-bridge, an elite response team from the Texas Master Naturalists and Friends of the Rio Bosque quickly re-installed the railing. And to help reduce future vandalism, El Paso No. 1 installed a gate across the road along the Riverside Drain at the park's north-west corner, thus closing the final gap where unauthorized vehicles could enter Rio Bosque. Many thanks to our partners for looking out for the park! ✈



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Return Service Requested

RIO BOSQUE CALENDAR

Join us at Rio Bosque for a free walking tour or to help with habitat management, park maintenance or faunal monitoring. Coming up:

JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER		
6 (Sat.)	Bird Tour	7 a.m.	3 (Sat.)	Introductory Tour	8 a.m.	7 (Sat.)	Bird Tour	8 a.m.
20 (Sat.)	Workday	8 a.m.	11 (Sun.)	Bird Tour	8 a.m.	15 (Sun.)	Introductory Tour	8 a.m.
21 (Sun.)	Introductory Tour	8 a.m.	17 (Sat.)	Workday	8 a.m.	21 (Sat.)	Workday	8 a.m.
27 (Sat.)	Faunal Monitoring	7 a.m.	24 (Sat.)	Faunal Monitoring	7 a.m.	28 (Sat.)	Faunal Monitoring	8 a.m.

Meeting place for all activities is a bridge crossing the Riverside Canal. From I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Dr., turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles to the bridge. Please be prompt.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.riobosque.org

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