

**Gardening 101** — El Paso Master Gardeners will lead a free workshop on “Vermiculture” 4 to 5:30 p.m. Friday, **Aug. 4**, at El Paso Multipurpose Center, 9031 Viscount, in partnership with Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and Office of Resilience and Sustainability. Information: 212-0115, gardenep@elpasotexas.gov or txmg.org/elpaso.

**Full Moon Nights** — White Sands National Monument, 15 miles southwest of Alamogordo, N.M., on U.S. 70, hosts monthly full moon programs through October. Entrance fee: \$5 age 16 and older. Free for children. Information: (575) 479-6124, ext. 236 or (575) 679-2599, ext. 232; or go to nps.gov/whsa.  
 • 8 p.m. Monday, **Aug. 7**: Iron Will, First Armored Division Band’s popular music group.  
 • 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, **Sept. 6**: Tularosa Basin Musician Union performing Americana Folk and acoustic blues

**Wyler Aerial Tramway** — 1700 McKinley. Information: 562-9899 or 566-6622.

A Leave No Trace hands-on workshop is 8 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 12**, on the ethics of the outdoors. Admission is free; space is limited. RSVP at 566-6622.

A last Sunday hike is 7 a.m. **Aug. 27**, up Ranger Peak. Meet in the parking lot for the 1-mile hike.

**El Paso Zoo** — 4001 E. Paisano. Zoo Entrance hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Zoo admission is \$12 for ages 13 to 59; \$9 for ages 60 and older and active duty military (including spouse) with ID; \$7.50 ages 3 to 12; and free for ages 2 and under. Zoo members admitted free. Information: 212-0966 or elpasozoo.org.

Zoo After Howlers extended summer hours are Saturday, **Aug. 19**. Zoo open until 8:30



these nights; last entry at 7 p.m.

The “Wings of the World” Bird Show is 12:30 p.m. weekdays and 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. weekends at the new Wildlife Amphitheater.

“Meet The Keeper” talks are 10:30 to 3:15 p.m. at various locations throughout the zoo.

“African Star” Train ride tickets are \$2 plus tax (\$1.50 for children and society members).

Asian Elephant Training Encounters scheduled at noon daily.

Week-long Zoo Camps for ages 6 to 10 are 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday **through Aug. 11**. Cost: \$100 per week; \$90 zoo members.

**Davis Mountains Hummingbird**

**Festival** — The annual festival is Thursday through Saturday, **Aug. 24-27**, in Fort Davis, Texas, with trade show, banding demonstrations, field trips, dinners, workshops, talks, art contest and more. Registration: \$99 for full weekend. Information: 1-800-524-3015, info@fortdavis.com or on Facebook.

**Master Gardener Course** — The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will host a 12-week master gardener course 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays, **Aug. 31-Nov. 16**, at Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (Ascarate Annex, second floor), 301 Manny Martinez. Classes include: intensive horticulture training on such topics as vegetable gardening, trees and pruning, xeriscaping, soils, fertilizers, plant pests and more. After successful completion of the course, participants are required to volunteer

time, sharing with the community what they have learned through a number of educational related projects. Application fee: \$195. Information, applications: 771-2354 or elp.tamu.edu.

**Franklin Mountains State Park** — Most hiking and mountain-biking trails begin in the Tom Mays area, off Transmountain Drive on the west side of the park (east of I-10).

Entry fee is \$5 per person, free for age 12 and under (with family). Correct cash or check only. Group rates available. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Information: 566-6441 or on Facebook at FranklinMountainsSP. Web: tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/franklin-mountains.

Guided hikes and bike rides are \$3 additional fee (\$1 ages 5-12; under 5 free). Bring water, snacks, sturdy shoes/boots, hiking stick, maps and binoculars. Dogs welcome on leash on some hikes. Reservations required: 566-6441 ext. 221, 224 or adrianna.weickhardt@tpwd.state.tx.us.

**Rio Bosque Wetlands Park** — UTEP’s Center for Environmental Resource Management offers free guided walking tours and other activities at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park in El Paso’s Mission Valley. Tours last about two hours. Information: 747-8663 or rio-bosque.org.

• Introductory tour is 8 a.m. Sunday, **Aug. 13**.  
 • Community workday is 8 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 19**.  
 • Bird tour is 8 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 26**.

Meeting place is a bridge crossing Riverside Canal. Take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Drive, turn left and travel 1.5 miles.

**Municipal Rose Garden** — The garden at 3418 Aurora (at Copia) is open to the public 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily late March through November, except for official holidays. The garden has many types of roses at the sprawling park area with a waterfall, shade canopy and many other amenities. Admission is free. Information/rentals: El Paso Parks and Recreation, 541-4331.

**Keystone Heritage Park and El Paso Desert Botanical Garden** — 4200 Doniphan (across from Frontera). Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Admission: \$3 (free for members). Information: 584-0563, keystoneheritagepark.org or elpasobotanicalgardens.org.

**Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site** — Ranch Road 2775 off U.S. 62/180 (Montana Ave.). The site is famed for many Native American rock paintings and unique geology. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Admission: \$7 (free for children 12 and younger). Additional activity cost for tours (including morning hike): \$2 (free for

age 4 and younger). Information: 857-1135 or texasstateparks.gov.

Bring water, hiking shoes and sunscreen for all daytime events. Special events (space is limited; reservations required):

• Yoga Tour is 7 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 12**. Cost: \$9. Bring a mat.  
 • Rare Plant Tour, 8:30 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 12**.  
 • Women’s Hike, 9-11 a.m. Saturday, **Aug. 12**.  
 • Birding hike is 7:30 a.m. third Saturday of the month (**Aug. 19**).  
 • Constellation tour is 8-10 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (**July 27, Aug. 24**).

Reservations are recommended for the self-guided area and for camping: (512) 389-8911.

North Mountain is available for self-guided day use, for up to 70 people at a time; reservations recommended. There is an annual orientation program for visitors. Guided access is offered to the rest of the site. Picnicking allowed at ten tables closest to headquarters. Wood and charcoal fires are not permitted. Bicycles permitted only on designated paved areas. Pets allowed only in camping or picnic areas. Call for reservations and other information: 857-1135.

There are campground sites with water and electric, as well as water-only tent sites.

**White Sands National Monument** — The glistening gypsum dunes are about 15 miles southwest of Alamogordo, N.M., on U.S. 70. Visitor Center hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Sept. 10. Park hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Sept. 2. Entrance fee: \$5 age 16 and older. Free for children. Information: (575) 479-6124, ext. 236 or (575) 679-2599, ext. 232; or go to nps.gov/whsa.

MothaPalooza family friendly celebration of moths is 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, **July 28**, in honor of National Moth Week. Discover the amazing life that thrives in the dunes and the science that is helping us gain a better understanding of this otherworldly landscape.

Sunset strolls are offered daily one hour before sunset; 7 p.m. through Aug. 6; 6:45 p.m. Aug. 7-20; 6:30 p.m. Aug. 21-Sept. 3.

“Skins and Skulls” mammal identification talks are 3 p.m. daily through Sept. 4.

Full Moon Hikes are 7:45 p.m. Sunday, **Aug. 6** and 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, **Sept. 5**. Reservations required starting one month in advance of each hike; online only. Cost: \$8; \$4 age 15 and young, plus monument entrance fees.

The 1st Armored Division band Iron Will performs up-beat popular music during the next Full Moon Night at 8 p.m. Monday, **Aug. 7**.

A Total Eclipse of the Park viewing of the partial solar eclipse is 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Monday, **Aug. 21**, preceded by a program at 10:30 a.m. Hands-on craft activities for kids are noon to 1 p.m.

**Carlsbad Caverns National Park** — The park is about 160 miles east of El Paso, off the Carlsbad Highway (U.S. 62-180). Information: (575) 785-2232 or nps.gov/cave.

Summer hours (through Sept 4): Last entry into cave via natural entrance is 4 p.m. Last entry into cave via elevator is 5 p.m.

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