

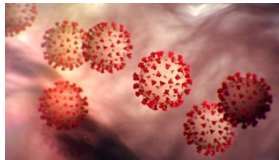
FLOWPATHS



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Winter 2021 News

COVID-19 Updates & Request for Input



We have been monitoring the COVID-19 situation and with current numbers and trends across the state and country, we have decided to cancel overnight Aquatic Science Adventure Camps for the summer of 2021. While it saddens us not to be able to run our overnight camps, we are working on ways to continue bringing exciting aquatic science education and adventure to our community. To help us prepare for this summer, please complete this survey: [Summer 2021 Programs](#).

Summer 2021 Aquatic Science Adventure Camps



Woohoo! We are currently developing summer day programs that include a combination of water recreation and aquatic science activities. Although summer programs will be dependent on the COVID-19 pandemic, we hope to offer the aquatic science and adventure activities that make ASAC great, with modifications to follow requirements and recommendations addressing COVID-19 health and safety concerns. We are hoping to run these day programs throughout the summer, but this will be dependent on COVID trends and University guidelines. To minimize risk of transmission, we are looking at camps that have smaller group sizes, no prepared meals (bring your own), no transportation in vehicles, and more emphasis on outdoor activities. You might wonder how we can still deliver a fun and engaging program, but you will be surprised at the variety of aquatic resources within walking distance from the Freeman Aquatic Biology Building at Texas State University! We are still developing an itinerary, but potential activities include paddle boarding, snorkeling, hands-on aquatic science experiments with academic experts and research-grade equipment, and more! Make sure to check our website periodically for the most up to date information about programs this summer. Registration will open in spring. Thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you this summer!

Upcoming Webinar on Groundwater Creatures



On January 20th, join Dr. Benjamin Hutchins as he gives a virtual presentation to the U.S. National Speleological Survey titled 'Dark Waters, Strange Creatures: Amazing Life in Groundwater.' Learn about the unusual watery habitats below our feet, and the interesting creatures that live there. Register for free at [here](#) to participate in the webinar. The presentation will also be available for viewing afterwards on the National Speleological Society webinars page.

Spotlight on Research



Researchers at the Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center are teaming up with researchers from UT – Rio Grande Valley and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to investigate spring and other groundwater habitats of the Western Edwards Plateau and Trans-Pecos. Arid-land springs contain interesting, highly endemic, and often vulnerable species. The project has only just begun, but already, we’ve double the known records for the endemic subterranean diving beetle *Psychopompurus sanfelipe* and discovered a population of subterranean crustaceans (amphipods) in Big Bend Ranch State Park that likely represent an undescribed species!

Holiday & COVID Hours

The EARDC analytical lab is currently open Monday – Thursday, 8 AM – 5 PM. We will be closed Monday January 18 for Martin Luther King Jr Day.

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