

Share Your Story

There I was, at a Texas Master Naturalist lecture and what do I hear? The speaker mentioned that they worked as a counselor for Aquatic Science Adventure Camp several years before and it helped them decide their career path. Aquatic Science Adventure Camp has been in operation since 1988 serving campers from around the state. It's not uncommon for us to run into people in the community, at conferences, and in grocery stores that tell us they attended this camp in their youth. Playing a role in so many lives is such an honor for us here at the EARDC. This past summer we had at least four campers whose parents had attended camp. It gives us great joy to be able to span generations and create shared experiences for parents and campers.

If you attended camp, we would love to hear your story! When did you attend camp, what are some memories you have, what are you doing now (anything related to things you learned at camp)? Shoot an email to EARDC_education@txstate.edu to share your story!

Aquatic Science Adventure Camp Update



Dates	Camp	Ages
June 1 - 6, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 1	9-12
June 8 - 13, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 2	12-14
June 15 - 20, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 3	9-12
June 22 - 27, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 4	12-14
July 6-11, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 5	9-12
July 13 - 18, 2025	Overnight Expedition Camp 6	9-12
July 21 - 25, 2025	Explorer Day Camp 1	12-14
July 28 - August 1, 2025	Explorer Day Camp 2	9-12
August 4 - 8, 2025	Nature Adventure Half-Day Camp (AM)	6-8
August 4 - 8, 2025	Nature Adventure Half-Day Camp (PM)	6-8

ASAC 2025 Sessions and Dates

Due to popular demand, we have decided to add an additional week of overnight camp and a second session of the Nature Adventure Half-Day Camp for 2025. Check out the schedule above and the descriptions below.

Overnight Expedition Camps (Registration Deposit-\$250)
Dive into an adventure like no other! Join us for experiences like river rafting, scuba diving, and wild cave exploration! Campers will also engage with our expert staff to delve into scientific investigations related to water. Set on the vibrant Texas State University campus and University Camp, our campers get to explore university spaces and beautiful San Marcos. Camps run from Sunday afternoon to Friday afternoon. Don't miss out on this epic adventure! Total Cost: \$1,099.

Explorer Day Camps (Registration Deposit \$150)
This is a week of action-packed activities, running from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Campers will conquer the rapids during river rafting, uncover hidden secrets in caves, learn about life in the river, and so much more! Lunch is included every day. Total Cost: \$500.

Nature Adventure Half-Day Camp – Morning or Afternoon sessions
Calling all young nature enthusiasts! Nature Adventure Half-Day Camp is tailor-made for curious minds aged 6-8 who crave exploration and adore the outdoors. Get ready for a whirlwind of science and nature activities that are all about fun. Join us as we go critter-hunting, craft new creatures, and embark on exciting outdoor escapades. Camp runs Monday through Friday with two session options: *Morning* session: 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or *Afternoon* session: 12:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.. Sessions are the same, so please only sign up for one. Total Cost: \$150.

Camp registration opens on Monday, January 13th, 2025.

Do you love ASAC? If so, consider supporting us. Camp expenses continue to rise, so we have entered a new phase of fundraising with a long-term vision of establishing a permanent support fund to make ASAC affordable to everyone. [Donate HERE](#) and type or copy/paste **Aquatic Science Adventure Camp Support Fund** into the program search.

For questions, contact Kellie Donajkowski at EARDC_education@txstate.edu or 512-245-6176.

Research Spotlight – TGIF

Collaboration and information sharing are critical elements of good science. For precisely those reasons, the Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center hosted the 6th annual Texas Groundwater Invertebrate Forum (TGIF, and yes, it is always held on a Friday) in early November. Scientific meetings like this have a history that goes back at least to the Renaissance Period, and they provide a great opportunity for academics to exchange ideas, debate, and develop future research directions. This year, TGIF was attended by 64 registrants that included students, citizen scientists, and professionals from diverse backgrounds including academia, water management, and wildlife conservation. Participants had the opportunity to network with one another and to see oral presentations and posters. Most presentations were related to Texas groundwater and Texas groundwater organisms, but presenters came from as far as Arizona, Ohio, and even Turkey. TGIF is open to the public and interested individuals should contact the Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center for registration details.



Analytical Lab Hours

Regular Hours:

Monday – Friday, 8am – 5 pm, closed for lunch 12-1:15pm, bacteriological samples are not accepted on Fridays, only by special request.

Holiday Hours:

Thanksgiving week:

Monday & Tuesday normal hours

Closed: Wednesday , November 27th – Friday, November 29th

Bacteriological samples only accepted on Monday, November 25th that week.

Winter Holiday:

Closed: Monday, December 23rd, 2024–Friday, January 3rd, 2025

The last day to submit bacteriological samples for the month of December is Thursday, December 19th, 2024.

No BOD/septic samples after Friday, December 13, 2024

Regular hours resume Monday, January 6th, 2025.