



Volunteers: We're the force for nature!

In 2018, the Rio Grande Nature Center mounted a force of more than 160 active volunteers who contributed 12,000 hours of assistance to the park.

What work do they do?

- ▶ They provide educational programs on plants and animals during trail walks, on aquatic life in Nature Center ponds, and sessions in the Visitor Center classroom to over 184 schools, scout groups and many others, reaching over 5,000 students per year;
- ▶ They provide outreach educational programs to seniors, students, and other groups, some 35 visits reaching over 1,500 people each year;
- ▶ They guide weekend bird and nature walks throughout the year;
- ▶ They offer storytime hours, connecting young visitors to nature in the bosque;
- ▶ They staff the Friends' Nature Shop;
- ▶ They produce and staff three festivals each year: Nature in Winter in January, Herbfest in May, and Summer Wings in August;
- ▶ They maintain and enhance the Nature Center's grounds and gardens;
- ▶ They provide receptionist services seven days a week at the front desk;
- ▶ They serve on the research committee conducting annual macro-invertebrate counts, bird surveys, and other projects as well as performing monthly testing of water quality in the Nature Center ponds, drain, and river.

Are you interested in becoming a Rio Grande Nature Center volunteer?

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Paula Bittner at frgncvolunteercoordinator@gmail.com
or call 505-344-7240.

